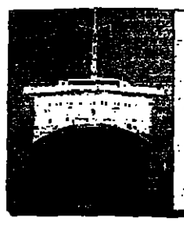
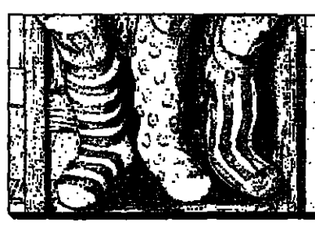
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Triumph over adversity

Jokes that kept the spirits up on the troubled QE2 cruise, **page 4**



Stocking fillers

Secrets of the perfect piece of frivolity, **page 5**



Julian Critchley

Why Major must ignore the revolting upstart Right, **page 12**

20P

THE TIMES

No. 65,144 THURSDAY DECEMBER 22 1994

Tory support lowest ever recorded

Only 8 per cent satisfied with the Government, says MORI

BY PETER RIDDELL
POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Government is more unpopular than any in polling history, while Labour has achieved a record lead over the Conservatives, according to the latest MORI poll for *The Times*, undertaken last weekend.

It provides dismal reading for John Major and the fractious Tory party after a turbulent year in which every turning point has proved illusory. The results confirm Tory MPs' worst fears, with just one in 12 of the public approving the Government's record.

Labour support has risen to 61 per cent, compared with 55 per cent last month. Backing for the Tories has fallen by two points over the past month to a new low of 22 per cent, giving Labour a 39-point lead. The Liberal Democrats have been squeezed by Labour's progress, dropping four points over the past month to 13 per cent.

Two-thirds of those questioned by MORI believe that Labour is ready to form the next government, while a quarter disagree. Nearly three-fifths believe that Tony Blair is ready to be Prime Minister, just five months after he was elected Labour leader, outnumbering those who disagree by more than two to one.

Labour's poll ratings appear unsustainably high, but they show the extent of the public's disillusionment with the Tories. Unless the Tory party's standing improves before the local elections in the spring, Mr Major's leadership could again be called into question.

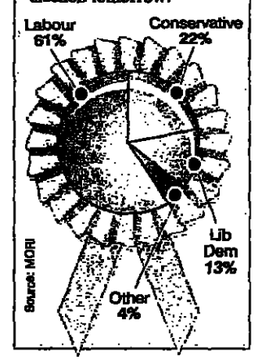
Only 8 per cent are satisfied with the way the Government is running the country, while 86 per cent of respondents said they were dissatisifed. The previous low, 10 per cent, was recorded in July. Even 59 per cent of Tory supporters are unhappy with the Government's record, while 29 per cent are satisfied.

The Prime Minister achieves only a slightly higher approval rating: 18 per cent are happy with the way he is doing his job, but 74 per cent are dissatisfied. His backing fell to a record low of 17 per cent in August. Fifty per cent of Tory supporters approve of Mr Major's performance, with about 40 per cent dissatisfied.

By contrast, Mr Blair's personal ratings are more favourable than those ever achieved by Neil Kinnock or John Smith. Roughly half the public are satisfied with his performance and less than a fifth are unhappy. Labour supporters are satisfied by a margin of nearly ten to one. Forty per cent of respondents are content with Paddy Ashdown's record, and 29 per cent dissatisfied.

MORI, like other leading polling groups, adjusts the figures for the tendency of Tory supporters not to reveal their voting intentions. After taking account of the past votes of current "don't knows", Labour support is shown at 57 per cent, against 61 per cent, with the Tories on 26 per cent (22 per cent), and the Liberal Democrats 13 per cent (unchanged). *MORI interviewed a representative quota sample of 1,769 adults at 143 constituency sampling points across Britain. Interviews were conducted face-to-face on December 15 to 19. Data were weighted to match the profile of the population. Voting intention figures exclude those who say they would not vote (8 per cent), are undecided (8 per cent) or refuse to name a party (2 per cent).*

William Rees-Mogg, and Julian Critchley, page 12



SARAH HOGG'S SUCCESSOR

Norman Blackwell, 42, a management consultant "with a Rolls Royce mind", will be John Major's chief policy adviser in the run-up to the next general election, it was announced yesterday. As head of the Downing Street policy unit in succession to Sarah Hogg, who leaves on January 31 after four years, he will take charge of the manifesto at a time when Tory fortunes have never been lower.....Page 2

Major plans crusade to put Great back into Britain

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE GOVERNMENT is to organise an unprecedented high-profile conference early next year to rekindle public confidence in Britain's greatness.

The Prime Minister will invite the Labour Party to join Cabinet ministers, businessmen and academics in public debate to convince public opinion that Britain still has assets, such as its language, international expertise and armed forces, that can be better exploited to bolster Britain's position in the world.

Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, will take the lead in trumpeting British strengths which are admired abroad but, he believes, too often ignored at home. These include the overwhelming use of English around the globe as well as British experience in privatisation, police training, aiding developing countries and helping governments to make their armies professional and free from political bias.

The conference, marking the 75th anniversary of Chatham House, will probably be opened by John Major, and ministers from the Ministry of Defence, the Treasury and the Department of Trade and Industry will also take part. The BBC and the British Council, increasingly seen as vital in furthering Britain's influence and cultural outreach, will be invited to join the examination of Britain's particular strengths today: its diplomatic and military professionalism: the promotion of privatisation, business and free trade; aid to new democracies through the Know-How fund, which provides expertise for the former Eastern Bloc, and foundations promoting the Westminster model of democracy; and the cultural values underpinning British dominance in the media, education and broadcasting.

This is the most ambitious government attempt to "sell" Britain at home as well as abroad. The aim is to stimulate an intensive debate on foreign policy and whether Britain can and should "punch above its weight". The Government believes that trade benefits would result from a more vigorous assertion of British strengths.

Mr Hurd hopes such a conference would reassure exporters and foreigners that Britain's steady post-war decline has now halted. In some parts of the world — India, the Middle East and America, for example — he finds a warm appreciation of Britain's influence.

Critics will be encouraged to question the basis of Britain's foreign policy; some may even repeat the provocative contention that the Foreign Office should be replaced by a fax. Much will be made of the predominance of English in world trade and international politics.

The Government is convinced that within the European Union things are now moving Britain's way. It sees a growing British presence in the Gulf, the former Soviet republics and Latin America. What is lacking is public confidence at home. That is what the conference proposes to address.

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SIMON WALKER

Rescuers at the scene of the Air Algerie crash in which five people died. The aircraft clipped the roofs of a house

Families missed by inches as five killed in jumbo jet crash

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

AN Air Algerie cargo plane crashed into a wood yards from a housing estate in Coventry yesterday, killing all five people on board. The plane, which had been diverted briefly because of fog, clipped the roofs of two houses and hit an electricity pylon before it hit the ground.

The Boeing 737, which was heading for Coventry's Baginton Airport from East Midlands Airport, exploded in a ball of flame after the impact, shortly before 10am, but no injuries were reported on the ground.

Seven air-crash investigators began examining the wreckage last night to discover whether pilot error or mechanical failure had caused the incident. They will be hoping that yesterday's crash will not remain unsolved like two crashes involving the same make of plane in the United States.

The first was in March 1991 when a United Airlines Boeing 737-200 flipped over as it approached Colorado Springs airport, killing five crew members and 20 passengers. The second was in September this year, when a USAir 737-200 nose-dived into a ravine outside Pittsburgh and exploded, killing all 132 passengers and crew.

The Air Algerie jet, which had originally taken off in Amesterdam, had been converted to carry cargo, including British cattle. The practice provoked many complaints from animal rights groups and sabotage is being considered as a remote but possible explanation for the accident, which took place on the sixth anniversary of the Lockerbie disaster.

The three Algerian crew and two British livestock handlers died instantly after the 21-year old plane, which was on a ten-minute flight after a diversion, hit the ground.

The two Britons were identified last night as Adrian Sharpe, 31, from Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, West Yorkshire, and Andrew Yates, 22, from Rugby, Warwickshire.

Christopher Barrett-Jolly, director of Phoenix Aviation, which leased the aircraft, said: "I have received threats against flights, and one of those threats included doing damage to an aircraft. I have no doubt that this will form part of the police investigation."

He said he would continue with the flights: "My present concern is obviously the families of the deceased. I will not say when the flights will resume again but can be assured that they will."

Residents on the Willenhall estate had a miraculous escape as the plane, which was carrying six tonnes of fuel, swerved away from their houses and crashed into a nearby wood.

Details, analysis, page 3
Magnus Linklater, page 10

Judge critical of CSA rulings

A High Court judge questioned yesterday whether the Child Support Agency gave enough weight to children's welfare in making its assessments. The criticism of the troubled agency came only a day after the Government's disclosure that it was shelving 350,000 cases.....Page 2

Berlusconi pledge

Silvio Berlusconi prolonged the agony of the demise of his administration yesterday, telling parliament that Italy faces no alternative to an early general election if MPs vote him out of office.....Page 9

Dean Rusk dies

Dean Rusk, former US Secretary of State who presided over the most momentous years of the Cold War, has died in Georgia. He was 85.

Obituary, page 14

Halifax premium cut leads to home insurance war

BY ROBERT MILLER

HOME insurance premiums are likely to tumble after the Halifax, the country's largest building society, cut the cost of its building-related policies yesterday.

After January 1 some customers could be paying up to £70 less when their policies come up for renewal. The Halifax said that the average reduction would be a fifth but it could be as high as three fifths, depending on where the property is. The society's new deal also includes the introduction of a no-claims discount for a claim-free year, to take effect from 1996.

The move will be followed by other big insurers in what is sure to become a pricing war. This has already happened in private motor insurance, where premiums have fallen by 15 per cent in a year. Sun Alliance confirmed that premiums were falling after a long period of mild weather and companies' improved experience of subsidence claims.

The premium pricing war has been sparked by the success of Direct Line, the telephone-based insurance company, which has attracted more than 500,000 people to switch their policies. In a submission to the Office of Fair Trading last year, Direct Line said that consumers were paying more than £1 billion a year to banks and building societies in commissions generated by the sale of home insurance policies.

☐ Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, has cleared the £90 billion merger of the Halifax and Leeds building societies in a move that brought criticism from the Labour Party (Anne Ashworth writes).

Dr Jack Cunningham, Shadow Trade Secretary, said that Mr Heseltine, acting on the advice of the Office of Fair Trading, had given his assent to the deal with extraordinary speed, given the mortgage market share that will be achieved by the combined societies.

Merger cleared, page 23



RHEUMATIC DISEASE WILL AFFECT MOST OF US DURING OUR LIFETIME.

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Surprise choice to head Major's kitchen cabinet


Blackwell: thought to be in touch with grassroots

By Philip Webster
Political Editor

JOHN MAJOR has chosen a leading management consultant "with a Rolls-Royce mind" to be his chief policy adviser in the run-up to the next general election.

Norman Blackwell, 42, announced as the surprise choice to be the new head of the Downing Street policy unit, will take charge of drawing up the election manifesto at a time when Conservative fortunes have never been lower.

Mr Blackwell, said to be on the centre-right but not an ideologue, will take over from Sarah Hogg, who is leaving the unit at the end of January after four years in a job that has been dubbed "deputy prime minister". Other better-known candidates, including Francis Maude, the former Treasury Minister, have been considered for the job, and Mr Maude is understood to have turned it down.

But ministers, who described Mr Blackwell as a hard-headed practician, said he would be a valuable ally to Mr Major in what seems certain to be an even more testing period over the next two years. He is an active local politician, and a former ward chairman, a factor which colleagues believe will appeal to Tory MPs anxious that the Government is out of touch with the grassroots. He was chairman of the Cambridge University Conservative Association in 1973.

Mr Blackwell, who will be paid £87,435 a year, will be returning to the unit where he worked in 1986 and 1987, including during the election of that year, under Lord Griffiths of Fforestfach. He was deeply involved in work on the inner cities and was the key thinker behind the drive to give council tenants more power through the housing action trusts announced in the 1987 manifesto.

He has been a partner of McKinsey and Co, the international management consultants, since 1984. Howard Davies, now Director-General of the CBI, was with the same company when he became special adviser to Nigel Lawson, then Chancellor of Exchequer, in 1985.

Lord Griffiths said last night: "Mr Major has made an outstanding appointment. He was one of the best people I ever worked with. He has an absolutely Rolls-Royce mind, he is politically sensitive and a practical person.

"I think he will be a great success. A Prime Minister needs someone who does not have an agenda of their own and who does not want the limelight. It is the Prime Minister who must take the stage. Norman will fit ideally into that."

Mr Blackwell's appointment completes a clean sweep of Mr Major's "kitchen cabinet". Last month he appointed a new political secretary, Howell James, and during the past year he has taken on a new press secretary, Christopher Meyer, and parliamentary private secretary, John Ward. Mr Major first met Mr Blackwell during his earlier stint at the policy unit when he was Social Security Minister. He was said to have formed a high opinion of him at that time, and they have developed a good relationship during interviews for the post.

Mr Blackwell, married with five children, graduated from Cambridge in natural sciences in 1973, before receiving a master's degreee in business administration at the Wharton business school, University of Pennsylvania, in 1975 and a PhD in finance and economics the following year. He is an amateur musician and a walker.

MORI poll, page 1

NEWS IN BRIEF

University replaces national anthem

Queen's University, Belfast, is to drop the national anthem from graduation ceremonies on the ground that it is inappropriate. The Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, has condemned the move as outrageous and insulting.

The University's Senate has voted to play instead the European Union's anthem — *Ode to Joy* from Beethoven's 9th Symphony — to create a "harmonious and neutral" environment. The national anthem may be played at other events.

B-test failures

One in 20 people breathalysed in the first three days of the Christmas campaign against drink-driving failed the test. The figure, a slight decrease on the same period last year, is expected to rise this week.

Teacher wins

Madeline Kendrick, 60, of Farnham, Surrey, a teacher sacked after being accused of spreading rumours about her headmaster, was awarded £5,000 after an industrial tribunal ruled disciplinary procedures were not followed.

£2.75m for beat

A 2½-mile salmon beat on the river Spey has been bought by a consortium for an estimated £2.75 million. The Wester Elchies beat was put on the market last year after the death of its owner, the pools millionaire Sir John Moores.

Office death

The body of Lucy Agnew, 71, has been found in a storeroom at the office where she worked ten days after she went missing. Police think Mrs Agnew, of Southampton, collapsed while she was in the cupboard and fell against the door.

Boy's trip halted

An overseas sailing holiday for a teenager accused of burglaries and car crime has been scrapped after a public outcry. Sunderland social services cancelled funding for the 13-year-old boy's trip yesterday.

Street stabbing

A 32-year-old vagrant was being held last night after a man was stabbed with a carving knife in front of shoppers in the centre of Liverpool. The victim, who was in his 20s, died soon after reaching hospital.

School's £7m list

A £7.7 million windfall for Canford School, near Bournemouth, from the sale of a 3,000-year-old Assyrian frieze discovered on the tuckshop wall is to be spent on a scholarship programme, a sports centre and a theatre.

Hospital at fault

A hospital in Madrid was held 60 per cent to blame for the death of Roy Kinnear after a film-set fall from a horse. The High Court ruling means the Ruber hospital must pay 60 per cent of the £650,000 already paid to the actor's family by Falconfilms.

Judge joins CSA critics as third of cases shelved

By A Staff Reporter

AFTER the Government's disclosure that the Child Support Agency was shelving 350,000 cases, the troubled agency suffered further criticism yesterday when a High Court judge questioned whether it gave enough weight to children's welfare in making its assessments.

The revelation that the CSA was indefinitely postponing a third of its workload came from Alistair Burt, a Social Security Minister, in a Commons written reply on Tuesday. He rejected claims that the move was a panic measure, saying the agency was suffering "teething problems".

Mr Burt said it would shelve cases involving parents who were caring for children and claiming income support before April 1993. For "the time being" it would not pursue cases in which parents had failed to return a maintenance application form for more than six months.

Donald Dewar, Shadow Social Security Secretary, said yesterday: "It's a panic measure of the worst sort."

Reaction from pressure groups was mixed. Families Without Fathers said anything addressing the "cruel impact" of the CSA was good news, but the latest move did not address "basic flaws". The Network Against the Child Support Act said the move proved the CSA was unable to cope because the legislation was unworkable, while the Campaign against the Child Support Act said the decision was "the best Christmas present for hundreds of thousands of families".

But Sue Slipman, director of the National Council for One Parent Families, condemned the move as "a devastating blow to all those lone parents who looked to the CSA to get the maintenance they so badly need to escape from the benefits trap". Sally Witcher, director of the Child Poverty Action Group attacked the move as "a panic solution to the crisis that faces the CSA".

Meanwhile in the High Court, Mr Justice Thorpe ruled that an absent father could not legally challenge the agency's assessments on how much he must pay for his two sons.

However, he voiced "considerable sympathy" for the father's position and noted that the CSA had argued that legally it "has only to notice [the welfare of children] in passing". If that was so, the title Child Support Agency seemed "hollow indeed".

Roy Biggin, 39, from Ardleigh, Essex, argued that the CSA failed properly to take into account his difficulties in providing for his two stepchildren from his second family when it ordered £80-a-week to be deducted from his pay for his two natural children. The judge expressed "considerable sympathy for Mr Biggin's position".

However, he said, the section of the Child Support Act headed "Welfare of children — the general principle" had little influence when the CSA applied its formula for working out how much an absent parent should pay.

A CSA spokesman said the action had been against the Social Security Department rather than the agency and declined to comment.

Mother's hopes are dashed

By Jeremy Laurance, Social Services Correspondent

NOT a penny of the maintenance owed by the father of her two teenage children has been received by Elizabeth O'Neill. Yesterday's announcement by the Child Support Agency dashed any hopes that remained.

After argument about the father's financial situation, the CSA decided he should pay £60 a week but never enforced the order. By September the arrears had reached £600.

Mrs O'Neill said: "I kept hammering away but they weren't interested. The agency has never been bothered with these difficult cases. Yesterday's announcement only confirms what is already happening: they don't want any case that gives them any hassle."

Until 1993, Mrs O'Neill received maintenance of £70 a week under a court order. However, when she applied for family credit, the agency investigated the level of her maintenance and ruled that it should be reduced to £9 a week. She protested that her former husband had exaggerated his financial commitments, and eventually the CSA reassessed his maintenance payments at £60.

Mrs O'Neill, of Paisley, Strathclyde, said: "I pressed them to investigate but they were not willing to challenge it. Now they are giving an amnesty to anyone who fails to fill in the forms or gives wrong information.

"My husband is more than capable of contributing to the upkeep of his children but the taxpayer is picking up the tab. My family credit has been increased by £40 as a result of his failure to pay."


Lewis: private meeting

Single top security jail 'recipe for trouble'

By Richard Ford
Home Correspondent

BUILDING a single, US-style jail for top security inmates could be dangerous and lead to serious disorder, prison authorities were warned yesterday. A prison governor said it would create a "no-hope" situation resulting in riots involving dangerous and desperate men.

After the Whitemoor breakout, the prison service is to consider a similar jail to Oak Park Heights in Minnesota, which holds a maximum of 400 prisoners and has not had an escape since it was built in 1982.

The move was announced by Derek Lewis, the Director-General of the prison service, at a private meeting with governors on Monday, although a spokesman for the service said yesterday that the mention of Oak Park Heights had merely been a passing reference and there were no plans to build such a prison in Britain. He confirmed that an American expert had been invited to help in a general examination of prison security.

Such a jail, holding 130 top security prisoners, would end the policy of 25 years of dispersing high-risk inmates around six key jails. After investigating the escape of the spy George Blake, Earl Mountbatten of Burma recommended in 1966 that one prison, to house a maximum of 120 inmates, should be built on the Isle of Wight, but his proposal was rejected in favour of dispersal.

Sir Leon Radzinowicz, who headed the committee that advised on dispersal, said yesterday that there were serious risks in housing such prisoners together. "The danger is that if you have a very high concentration of such people, they can cause serious disorder. There can be control problems."

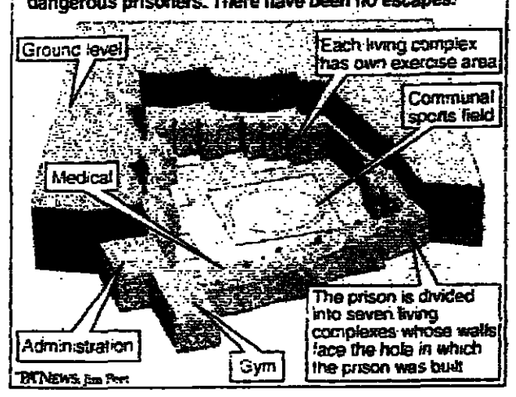
Like the infamous Alcatraz jail, which is set on an island off San Francisco, Oak Park Heights uses the natural contours of the land as an aid to security. Roy King, professor of criminology at the University of Wales at Bangor, said it was built in an enormous hole and surrounded by earth walls. There are linked living units of about 50 inmates each with cells on the ground floor and work and study rooms above. Each unit, complete with its own exercise yard, faces inward.

Professor King said: "It is an extremely successful prison on which has not had any serious incident of disorder."

☐ The former governor of Whitemoor has pulled out of a planned speech about jail security. Andrew Barclay had been booked to address the Cambridge University Centre Business Club next month.

Model for a British 'Alcatraz'

Oak Park Heights State Prison, Minnesota, US, built in a huge hole in the ground, holds 400 of the state's most dangerous prisoners. There have been no escapes.



Ruling leaves judge unable to punish baby's killer

By Catherine Milton and Frances Gibb

A TEENAGER convicted of cruelty to her baby who died after his head was swung against a wall walked free from the Old Bailey yesterday after a judge said he was prevented by a legal loophole from punishing anyone properly.

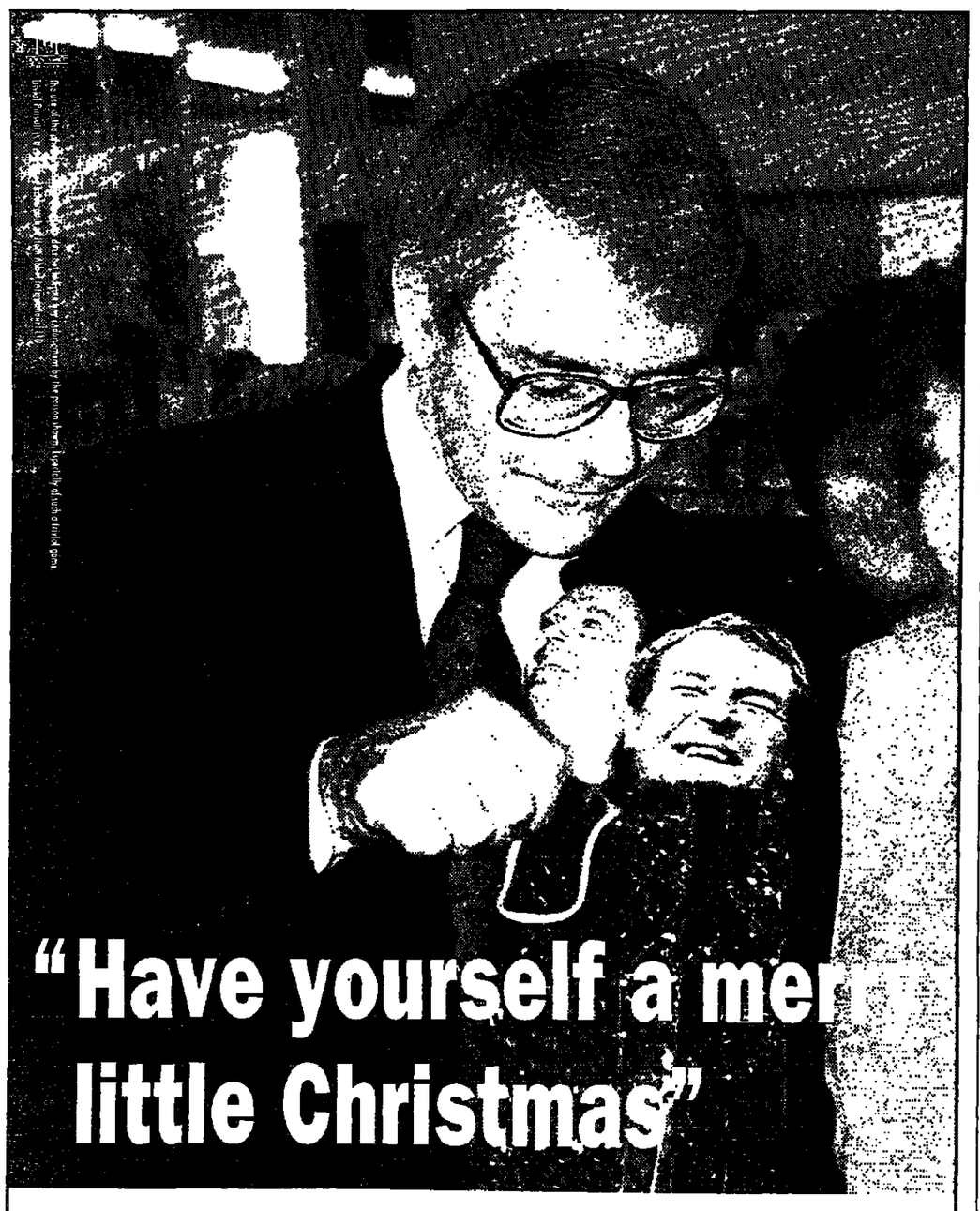
Judge Pownall said he believed that David Larkin, the lover of the baby's mother, Clare Taylor, was responsible for Darren Lee's "dreadful death" when he was nine months old. In their separate trials for cruelty, Taylor, 19, and Larkin, 32, of Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, blamed each other.

The case brought renewed calls for the closure of the loophole which child welfare campaigners say has allowed the killers of at least six children to escape prosecution for murder or manslaughter.

In a ruling handed down in 1991, the Court of Appeal quashed two convictions for the manslaughter of a 16-month-old girl because there was no evidence as to which of her parents was responsible for the toddler's death.

Larkin was jailed for three years last month after being found guilty of cruelty on the ground that he should have prevented Taylor from harming Darren. He has appealed against both his conviction and sentence. Imposing a 12-month conditional discharge on Taylor, Judge Pownall said: "I find myself in an unenviable position. On the one hand Darren suffered a dreadful death for which someone should be very severely punished. I don't believe, myself, that person is you, it is truly Larkin."

Detective Chief Inspector Colin Westwood later said: "We have to work within the law and because there were no independent witnesses and neither Taylor nor Larkin sought to explain to us how Darren sustained his injuries, they could not be charged with murder or manslaughter."



Lorry firm in death crash loses licence

By Paul Wilkinson

THE haulage firm whose runaway lorry killed six people at Sowerby Bridge in West Yorkshire was ordered off the roads yesterday. A government-appointed transport commissioner disqualified Fewston Transport from operating its vehicles from midnight tonight.

Tony Eyers, Fewston's managing director and Eric Preston the firm's former transport manager, were disqualified from holding a goods vehicle operating licence for a year and three years respectively. However, the company, based in Skipton, North Yorkshire, will today ask the Transport Tribunal in London for a 14-day stay of the decision to give it time to appeal.

Fewston had applied to renew its operating licence and increase its fleet from 30 to 35 vehicles during a three-day public inquiry in Leeds last week, but it was opposed by Calderdale District Council, which includes the crash scene, and by relatives of the victims.

Severed limbs found in murder village attic

By Michael Horsnell

THE severed head and limbs of a third murder victim were found by police in the attic of a house in the Suffolk village of Bramford yesterday as bereavement counsellors moved in to help the traumatised community.

Detectives investigating the savage triple killings which took place in the the space of eight days were last night still questioning a man who had discharged himself from a mental hospital where he was a voluntary in-patient.

The man was said to have been living rough after returning to his home village recently. He was detained after police investigating the murders of two elderly people earlier appealed for sightings of Jason Mitchell, 24.

The third victim, whose body had been dismembered, was his father, Bob Mitchell, who was strangled at his home 200 yards from where Arthur Wilson, 65, and his wife, Shirley, 61, were found strangled last week.

CHRISTMAS IN THE TIMES



THE LAST-MINUTE SHOPPER'S GOOD GIFT GUIDE

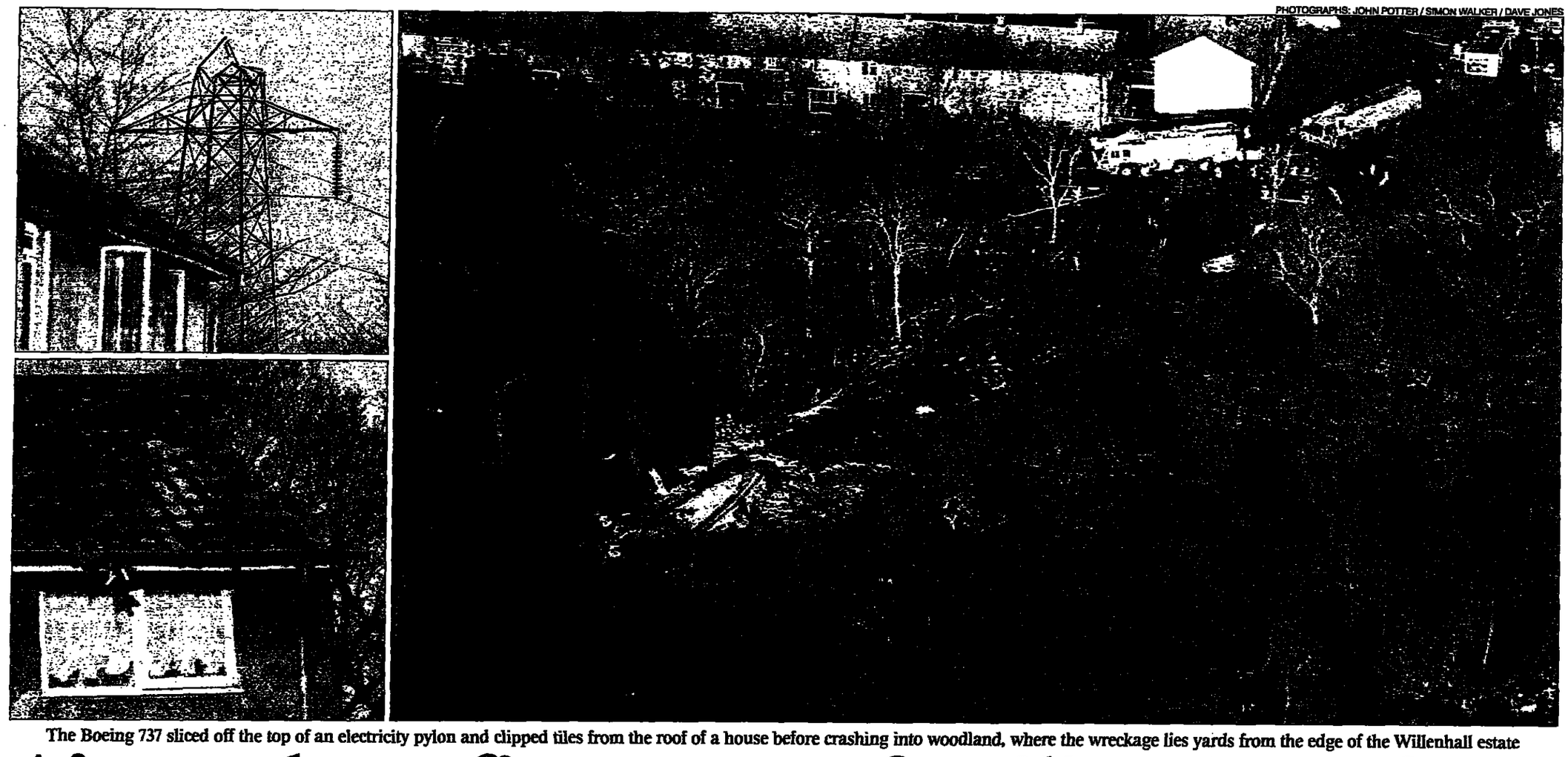
Plus: the £100 prize jumbo crossword — and quizzes with fizz: win jeroboams of champagne ON CHRISTMAS EVE

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A ROUND-THE-WORLD TRIP FOR TWO WORTH £64,000 ON BOXING DAY

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'Plane was like a giant shadow in the sky and I thought I was going to die'

PHOTOGRAPHS: JOHN POTTER / SIMON WALKER / DAVE JONES



The Boeing 737 sliced off the top of an electricity pylon and clipped tiles from the roof of a house before crashing into woodland, where the wreckage lies yards from the edge of the Willenhall estate

Air crash confirms estate families' worst fears

BY KATE ALDERSON AND DOMINIC KENNEDY

IN THICK fog above the 2,500 homes of the Willenhall estate, two miles short of Coventry Airport, flight ACE702P crashed into an electricity pylon and lost control. It was 9.55am and the plane was making the final leg of a journey from Amsterdam, having been diverted to East Midlands Airport because of bad weather.

The Air Algérie plane, ready to collect a cargo of up to 200 live calves, took off from East

CRASH SITE

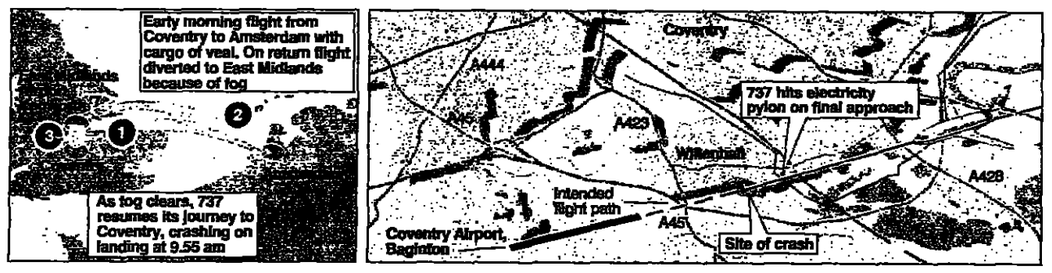
Midlands at 9.32am. Residents of the estate, where many have bought their own homes from the council, were quietly cursing the low-flying aircraft as it headed noisily towards the airport. They have campaigned for many years against flights to Coventry Airport, and have been particularly angered by the frequency of flights during the past five weeks of Boeing 737s involved in the meat trade.

After clipping the top of an 80ft pylon, cleanly knocking off the triangular top section, the aircraft struggled to gain control, careered towards four rows of small terraced houses known as Fieldmarch and brushed the top of the roof of house No 17, dislodging at least half a dozen tiles.

As the aircraft headed towards a small wood adjoining the housing estate it smashed into streetlights and nosedived into a clearing in woodland. Flaming wreckage flew across the field and a plume of smoke and flames rose from the aircraft.

The mangled aircraft, its white, red and green livery still visible, came to rest 300 to 400 yards from homes. Within 20 minutes of the crash 12 fire engines arrived and houses and maisonettes were cordoned off by police.

The aftermath of the firefighting operation has left dozens of streets ankle deep in foam and the homes directly under the flight path have been evacuated and their residents interviewed by police and offered counselling.



Bewildered people stood around in groups, unable to grasp how close to a greater disaster they had been. Ronald Bullock, who lives 300 yards from the crash site, was one of the first on the scene. "I was upstairs when I heard a huge bang and I ran out of the house. I could smell fuel fumes and saw a huge fire, the smoke was billowing everywhere."

Mr Bullock, 30, said his first thoughts were for any survivors. "The middle of the plane was still fairly intact and Alec, my friend, climbed up near the wreckage but couldn't see anyone. The heat was pushing us back and as I walked away I saw the remains of a human body."

Along with many other residents on the estate Mr Bullock said the pilot appeared to have averted a major disaster. "The plane was so close to the houses and the pilot appears to have been trying to get into the open field. If he was trying to avoid us, then he is a hero."

Evelyn Davis, 69, who lives in Leyside Road close to the crash site, has been campaigning against Phoenix Aviation's livestock flights since they began five weeks ago. She and dozens of other residents have picketed the airport every day. "These flights have been a disaster waiting to happen," she said.

"Every day we would say the same thing. The planes fly eight feet above our houses six times every day. I have reported every low-flying incident to Coventry Airport and they told us to stop being silly. They said an accident could never happen."

Hilda Craner lives in one of four rows of houses over which the aircraft flew said the aircraft was tilting heavily as it clipped the roof of the house two streets away. "It was as if the pilot was trying to set the plane on course again."

Karen England had joked with her husband Mark the evening before about leaving a cup of coffee in the garden for the pilot. Yesterday a piece of fuselage lay close to her garden gate and another lump of green metal was lodged in a tree close to her home.

"I had just gone to the bathroom," she said. "I heard a sound and saw the plane hitting a tree opposite. I looked through the window and all I could see was pieces of tree and wreckage raining down. It must have missed us by inches."

Josephine McLennan said: "Just as I opened the dining room curtains, the plane hit the pylon in front of me. It was coming straight at me. It was like a giant shadow in the sky and I thought I was going to die."

Among those arriving to look at the wreckage through the bare trees were Pamela Brown and Jill Phipps, from Coventry Animal Alliance. The police watched them closely and asked reporters what they had been saying. The group has been picketing Coventry Airport since November, taking direct non-violent action against the transportation of live calves. The flight that crashed contained no animals.

The alliance called off its protest at the airport yesterday and within two hours of the crash staged a demonstration outside Coventry council's offices in the city centre.

A spokesman for the council said: "Residents living near an airport do have grave concerns over noise pollution and safety. These were taken into consideration at the time of their complaints. We are very appalled by the tragic loss of life caused by the terrible crash. Our condolences go out to all the families involved."

TIMETABLE

- **4.52am: Air Algérie ACE702P leaves Coventry Airport for Amsterdam. Unloads cargo of cattle and returns to Coventry.**
- **7.35am: The Boeing 737 is diverted to East Midlands Airport because of fog.**
- **8.12am: Lands at East Midlands Airport.**
- **9.32am: Departs for Coventry.**
- **9.55am: Plane strikes a pylon and clips two houses at Willenhall. Crashes two miles short of the city's airport.**
- **9.56am: Police receive first emergency call.**
- **10am: Paramedics, firefighters and police arrive at the scene.**
- **10.15am: Police set up telephone hotline and receive 150 calls in the first hour.**

Exporter threatened by animal rights groups

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

PHOENIX Aviation began flying livestock to the Continent in October after the main cross-Channel ferries banned such cargo. The flights have angered animal rights activists, and were banned at one stage because of security fears.

Two of Phoenix's animal handlers were on board the Boeing 737 cargo plane, leased from Air Algérie. The company, based at Frankton, near Rugby, transports more than 5,000 calves a week to Amsterdam and Rennes in northwest France. It has five flights on weekdays and a restricted service on Saturday. Each plane carries about 190 animals.

It is the only company in Britain exporting livestock by air. "We have no cargo fleet of our own and have to charter all our aircraft," a company spokeswoman said.

The Ministry of Agriculture gave its approval for the service despite protests from animal welfare groups which led the campaign to stop the ferry trade. They want all animals for export to be slaughtered in this country.

William Waldegrave, the Agriculture Minister, said the live export trade was lawful and should continue if welfare regulations were followed. Aircraft equipped with straw-bedded livestock pens offered better conditions than roll-on, roll-off ferries on which animals were packed into lorries.

THE COMPANY

Chris Barrett-Jolley, managing director of Phoenix Aviation, said last night: "We have had many anonymous threats from animal rights militants, including even threats against our aircraft, though I very much doubt that anyone would have the technical ability to cause an accident of this kind. Our head offices have been attacked. People invaded the grounds and smashed windows, vandalised cars and smeared graffiti on walls, forcing us to hire guards."

Respect for Animals, the welfare group that first proposed a boycott of ferries carrying livestock, said yesterday that it would step up its campaign to end all animal exports. Mark Glover, chief spokesman, said: "We are concerned by the use of a 21-year-old aircraft from a small airline and the undue haste with which these export routes were set up."

On November 3, Coventry City Council banned the flights because of fears that airport security would be jeopardised by animal rights protests. The council backed down two days later after Mr Barrett-Jolley threatened an £8.5 million suit for damages. On November 15 a High Court judge ruled that a ban would be illegal.



An Air Algérie cargo plane being loaded with cattle

Grim reminder for Lockerbie relatives

BY ANDREW PIERCE

WHEN the Air Algérie Boeing 737 burst into flames yesterday, relatives and friends of those who died in the Lockerbie tragedy were marking the sixth anniversary of Britain's worst air disaster.

Some of those who were going to the candlelit ceremony at Westminster Abbey, central London, last night wept when they heard that the plane had crashed only 100 from the nearest home. On December 21, 1988, all 259 passengers and 11 people in Lockerbie died when Flight 103 crashed after an Arab terrorist bomb exploded.

Dr Jim Swire, whose daughter Flora died, said: "I give thanks that no one on the ground was killed. It would have been unbearable if others had to go through the same as us on the very anniversary."

Magnus Linklater, page 10

Workhorse airliner is the world's bestseller

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

THE twin-engined, short-range Boeing 737 is the best-selling airliner ever and regarded as the workhorse of the aviation industry.

The makers claim it has an excellent safety record, and more than 3,000 have been delivered to airlines worldwide since it first went into service in December 1967.

British Airways and British Midland still use the plane because it is popular and easy to fly. However, many British charter airlines are switching to bigger aircraft such as the Boeing 757 or ordering the European Airbus A320 with its advanced electronics.

Although the Boeing 737-200 that crashed was 21 years old, there is no reason why well maintained aircraft should not fly for many years. An aviation expert once reckoned that if a family car was kept as well as a plane it would last 6,000 years.

Rudder problems are being investigated as a possible cause of the crash of a USAir 737 near Pittsburgh in September, in which all 132 on board died, and of the crash of a 737 in Colorado Springs in 1991.

The *Seattle Times*, which covers the district where Boeing aircraft are built, reported in October that the 737's rudder had prompted 46 "service difficulty reports"

THE AIRCRAFT

to American aviation authorities.

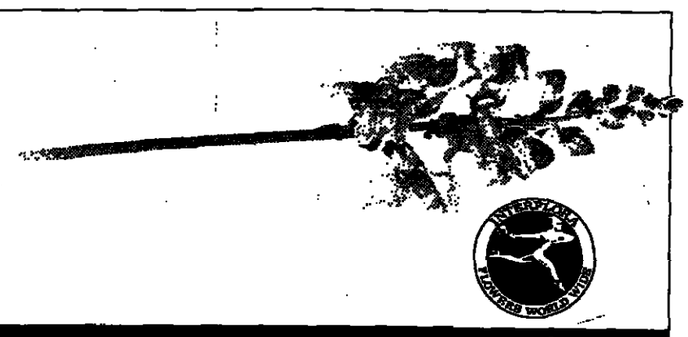
In 1988, the US Federal Aviation Administration ordered thousands of rivets to be replaced on ageing 737s to stop their fuselages cracking. The ruling followed a metal-fatigue accident when the top half of an aircraft tore off in Hawaii, sucking a stewardess out of the plane. This was similar to an accident in 1981 when a 737 disintegrated in mid-air over Taiwan, killing all 110 passengers and crew.

In August 1985, 55 people died in the Manchester Airport disaster when a British Airtours 737 burst into flames as it was about to take off. Most were killed by poisonous smoke before they could get out.

In January 1989, 47 people died and 67 were seriously injured when a British Midland 737 crashlanded on the M1 at Kegworth while trying to make an emergency landing at East Midlands airport after an engine fire.

In the latest accident, the black box data recorder will hold vital clues. It gives readings of height, speed and the performance of the aircraft's hydraulics and engines. The 30-strong Air Accidents Investigation Branch is often able to give an initial clue to the cause of a crash within 12 hours of analysing the plane's flight recorder.

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QE2 passengers joke but insist voyage is no laughing matter

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

EQUAL measures of the Dunkirk spirit and gallows humour were reported by passengers on board the *QE2* last night as the liner headed through choppy waters to New York, where it is due to dock 13 hours late at 9pm local time today.

A further 471 British holidaymakers are flying to New York this morning to join the liner, which yesterday still had only sporadic heating and running water..

Those staying on for the Caribbean leg of the cruise were to be taken on a tour of Manhattan, but have been told the trip is off. The captain has also indicated that the 1,000 passengers may have to miss one of the islands on the itinerary.

Merrilyn Wesley, a management trainer for Midland bank, said a mood of jocular determination prevailed on board. "The in-joke among the passengers at the moment is that we're sailing on the *QE1¾*, although that's probably being generous," she said. "There are real edges of sarcasm coming through now. When the crew say 'Good morning', we say '*Is* it?' "

Many passengers attended a show given by the American ventriloquist Ron Lucas and his dragon puppet Scorch. "As Scorch breathed fire, lots of the passengers shouted that the ventriloquist should send him upstairs to do the welding, as it might get done more quickly," Ms Wesley said.

Behind the bravado lies a determination to win compensation from Cunard. Peter Ludlow, who is accompanying Ms Wesley on the trip, said that despite daily improvements, passengers felt every day was a fight.

"There's been lots of talking, but what we want is action from Cunard. I feel very bitter about it all." Mr Ludlow has taken a video film of what he considers to be safety hazards on board. "The deck is so dangerous. There are holes there and planks lying around, and equipment all over the place. I don't want to, but I will use this against Cunard if I have to."

He added: "The crew are embarrassed and upset at what's going on and have said the publicity has been entirely justified."

Christine Hall, an American law professor who won her ticket in a draw, is representing about 50 *QE2* passengers, many of whom have indicated that they will file lawsuits if Cunard does not respond to their demands. "Their requests are all different, but the bottom line is that they want the holiday they paid for. It's not a question of whether we'll get compensation, but how much," she said.

Eric Flounders, spokesman for Cunard, assured the Britons joining the ship in New York that their Christmas cruise would go ahead as planned. "It's been a bit of a struggle but we're on track. There will be no further offloads."



Arfur, the London Zoo lion under observation at a veterinary hospital where he is said to be very poorly

Arfur the lion sick with suspected cancer

ARFUR, the doyen of London Zoo's pride of lions, is thought to be suffering from a form of cancer and is under observation in an animal hospital (John Young writes). A zoo spokesman refused to comment yesterday on reports that he might be dying but said he was very poorly.

The five-year-old, 25 stone Asian lion, who has twice mauled intruders, is believed to have contracted lymphoma, a disease that attacks the lymph cells. He was also in the spotlight this year when he was united with the five cubs he had fathered after mating with two of the zoo's lionesses, Ruchi and Chandani. The cubs were the first of the species to be born in Britain since 1907. There are only about 400 Asian lions left in the world.

On New Year's Eve last year Ben Silcock, a schizophrenic, was bitten in the chest and neck by Arfur after entering his enclosure. In September this year another disturbed man, Tony Sarumi, climbed in. He was pinned by the throat but escaped with his life.

Sex abuse teacher allowed to go free

PARENTS protested at the Old Bailey yesterday when a primary school teacher who had admitted indecently assaulting six boys was allowed to walk free.

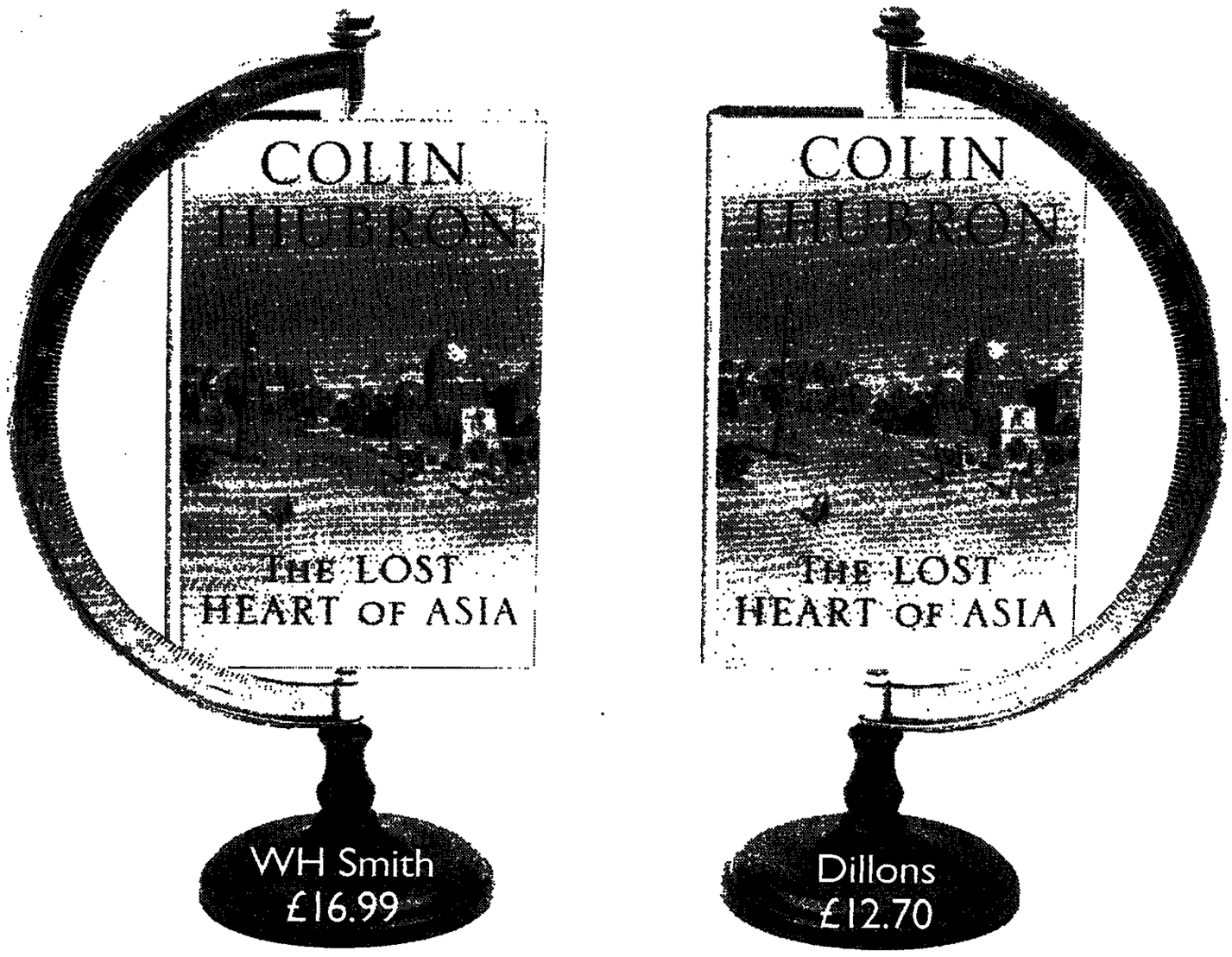
"It's a disgrace — he should have got six years," said one after Michael Moody, 29, was given a three-year probation order. Another said: "This isn't justice. Some of the children are still suffering."

Moody was suspended from his south London school after a five-year-old made allegations of indecency. He was eventually sacked but it was only after he had left that other boys came forward with allegations of abuse.

Stephen Waller, for the prosecution, said Moody had used various pretexts to touch boys indecently.

Judge Rogers said Moody was a changed man from three years ago. He was now working as a gardener living with a religious order in Liss, Hampshire, and having therapy.

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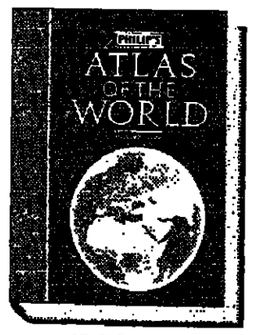
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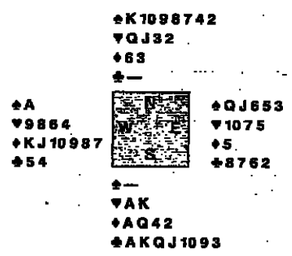
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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE



Contract 6♠ by South. Opening lead: ♠A

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

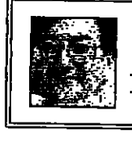
Instead of my usual refresher, I give this old chestnut suitable for the Christmas season. It is a double-dummy problem, by which is meant you can see all four hands. Can South make Six Clubs against the lead of the ace of spades?

The "try" as the chess problematists put it is for South to ruff the spade with a high club. He then draws three rounds of trumps, cashes the ace-king of hearts and ace of diamonds, and leads the three of clubs to East's six. As East has only got spades and hearts left, he has to give dummy the lead. The declarer makes one spade trick, four heart tricks, one diamond trick and six club tricks.

For those of you who have not already moved on to the wine page, East's counter to this manoeuvre is to play his eight-seven-six of clubs on the first three rounds of the suit. Then when South plays the three of clubs on the fourth round, East still has the two left and the declarer is stuck in hand and has to concede two diamond tricks to West. So the answer is: South cannot make Six Clubs against best defence.

Macallan Pairs

The Macallan International Bridge Pairs Championship, in association with *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, will be held at the White House Hotel, Albany Street, London NW1, on January 25-27. For details and tickets contact the English Bridge Union, Broadfields, Bicester Road, Aylesbury, Bucks HP19 3BG, (tel 0296 394414).



KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Hastings preview

The international tournament at Hastings was founded in 1895 and is the world's longest running traditional tournament. Hastings is also Britain's premier chess competition.

This year's event runs from December 28 to January 8 and takes place at the Cinque Ports Hotel Periquito.

The roll-call of those who have played at Hastings reads like a list of the world's greats. In 1895 Pillsbury won the first tournament, and in later years he was followed by Capablanca, Alekhine, Botvinnik, Tal, Spassky and Karpov.

In recent years top British players including Nigel Short and John Nunn have imposed their mark on the competition and captured first prize on several occasions, a sign of the increasing impact made by British Grandmasters on the world chess scene.

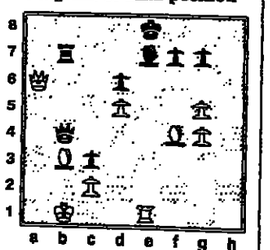
Britain is represented this year by top players, Grandmasters Dr John Nunn and Susan Lalic. Both are likely to produce fascinating games as the following samples demonstrate.

White: John Nunn
Black: Matthew Sadler
Lloyds Bank Masters, London 1993

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	a6
6	Be3	e5
7	Nb3	Be6
8	f3	Nbd7
9	g4	Be7
10	Qd2	b5
11	a4	b4
12	Nd5	Bxd5
13	exd5	Qc7
14	g5	Nh5
15	0-0-0	Nf4
16	h4	h6
17	Rg1	hxg5
18	hxg5	Rh4
19	Kb1	Qd8
20	Nd4	exd4
21	Bxf4	Nb6
22	Bg3	Nxa4
23	Bc4	Nc3+
24	bxc3	dxc3
25	Qe2	Qa5
26	Rde1	Ra7
27	Bf4	b3
28	Bxb3	Rb7
29	Rg4	Rxg4
30	fxg4	Qb4
31	Qxa6	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Grandmaster Susan Lalic is in fine form, having led the English Women's team to an outstanding sixth place in the Moscow Olympiad.

White: Susan Lalic
Black: Niaz Murshed
Lloyds Bank Masters, London 1989

Pirc Defence

1	e4	g6
2	d4	Bg7
3	Nf3	d6
4	Be2	Nf6
5	Nc3	0-0
6	0-0	c6
7	Re1	Qc7
8	Bf4	Nbd7
9	e5	Nh5
10	Bg5	dxe5
11	Bxe7	Re8
12	d5	b5
13	dxc6	Qxc6
14	Bxb5	Qb7
15	Qd6	Rb8
16	Bc6	Qxb2
17	Rab1	Qxc3
18	Rxb8	e4
19	Rb3	Black resigns

Winning move, page 44

هكذا من الأصل

Ministers shelve unpopular new school diploma

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

PLANS for a new school-leavers' qualification, hailed by ministers as a "passport to the world of work" seven months ago, were quietly shelved by the Government yesterday.

The proposed General Diploma was one of the centrepieces of the White Paper on competitiveness, published in May. The idea behind the modern version of the School Certificate was to assure employers that 16-year-olds had mastered the basics of English, mathematics, science and at least two other subjects.

However, consultation on the proposal drew little enthusiasm from education or industry, and officials encountered practical problems in assembling the necessary information.

The announcement of the diploma's demise was buried in a statement yesterday that named 118 schools which will pilot new vocational courses. Eric Forth, Education Minister, said: "We have reflected carefully on whether it is right to proceed with the introduction of the diploma from 1995 as originally planned, in the light of the views expressed.

"We have concluded that it is right for the time being to focus our efforts on securing standards in the core subjects of the national curriculum, on piloting the new General National Vocational Qualification and on securing better careers guidance for young people, as set out in the White Paper."

The examination boards had been expected to administer the diplomas, but the large number of schools using a variety of boards would have made such a system impossible, and added considerably to the bureaucracy and cost of the exercise.

It is the third time since 1991 that ministers have shelved plans for a diploma. Kenneth Clarke, as Education Secretary, published plans for diplomas at 16 and 18. But only the advanced qualification appeared in the Conservative Party's manifesto the following year, and plans for its introduction have never been pursued.

David Blunkett, Shadow Education Secretary, said: "The current confusion in the plethora of overlapping qualifications makes this decision inevitable. What we really need is a coherent forward plan of how to unify, rather than disaggregate, vocational and academic qualifications."

Teaching unions welcomed the decision. David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said: "I am glad the Government has listened. For once, consultation appears to have been genuine."

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said serious problems remained with the new vocational courses apart from the diploma. The union, which led the original boycott of national curriculum testing, would issue "strong advice" to members on the "excessive workload which accompanies much of the coursework assessment requirements".

Student loan boss steps down as complaints rise

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE chief executive of the state-owned Student Loans Company has stepped down because of ill-health amid claims that managerial incompetence has left thousands of students penniless.

Student Loans said yesterday that Ron Harrison, who was taken seriously ill last month, was recuperating and had not resigned. A temporary replacement has been appointed.

About 35,000 students will be left without loans over Christmas after the botched introduction this summer of a streamlined system for repeat applications. Forms were sent to students' old addresses and the company was overwhelmed by last-minute applications from those who had lost or failed to receive them.

Although the company recruited extra staff, student leaders claimed that thousands could not make contact because telephone lines were constantly engaged. Tim Boswell, the Higher Education Minister, criticised the company last week for unacceptable delays.

Bryan Davies, Labour's higher education spokesman, said: "If it had been pensioners who had been waiting weeks for their pension the nation would have been in uproar, but because it was students, people tolerated it."

The Glasgow-based company, which has been dogged by controversy since it was established four years ago, is the subject of a inquiry by the accountants Coopers & Lybrand for the Education Department after allegations of financial irregularities by former members of staff.

The National Audit Office launched an investigation in the summer into separate allegations surrounding the award of a computer contract and claims that in two months in 1992 Mr Harrison spent £350 on whisky for the boardroom on top of a petty cash whisky bill of £252.

***The Times* disclosed last month that half of all graduates who have taken out a student loan are too poor to make repayments or are failing to settle their debts. So far, more than £751 million has been lent to students and only £19.8 million repaid.**



PICK OF YORK

Oak Farm, where Mrs Raines's body was found by her son as he returned from working in the fields

Wealthy widow stabbed to death for contents of her handbag

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A WEALTHY widow found murdered was proably killed for the contents of her handbag. Adelaide Ruth Raines, 73, was discovered by her son slumped on the floor of the family farmhouse as he came in from work in the fields on Tuesday night.

Mrs Raines had died from multiple knife wounds. Detectives last night appealed for help from anyone who saw anything strange at her home at Oak Farm in Broughton, North Yorkshire.



A spokesman for North Yorkshire Police said: "It appears that she answered her door to a stranger and that she was stabbed to death. We have discovered that Mrs Raines's handbag is missing."

Detectives said that nothing else was missing from the property and it was not known if Mrs Raines's handbag contained a large amount of cash or valuables.

Guy Raines, 38, found his mother's body in a pool of blood in a ground floor room as he arrived home for his evening meal. He had taken over the running of the 500-acre farm after his father died six years ago.

The killing shocked villagers who said Mrs Raines was well liked and highly respected. She kept herself to herself but would pass the time of day with other locals as she walked her dogs, a golden labrador and a pair of collies.

Janet Preston, a neighbour, said: "They are a well-off family, at one time they owned almost all the village land. Over the years they sold off parcels for building but still controlled a sizeable slice of land."

Oak Farm is a Georgian stone-built four-bedroomed property, standing at the edge of the village. Mrs Raines and her husband Alan had lived there for more than 45 years. The couple also had a daughter, Gill, who is married to a York estate agent. They were too upset last night to talk about Mrs Raines's death.



Ruth Raines: well liked in the village

Her brother, Stanley Harrison, a retired farmer said: "It has come as a shock to all of us. Ruth, as my sister was known to us, was an active woman and well known in local village circles."

Mr Harrison had last seen his sister on Monday in the nearby town of Malton at the funeral of her late husband's cousin. He said that she had seemed to be perfectly all right.

"My sister must have been killed by some stranger who knew she was alone in the house. Guy was occupied doing hard work on the farm most of the time. Her death is a tragedy. She was active and young-looking for her age and was very forthright and determined."

Thirty task-force policemen are involved in the inquiry into Mrs Raines's murder. Several of the officers carried out a finger-tip search of the farmhouse and surrounding land, while others talked to people in the village. They hope that someone will have noticed the killer leaving the farm as he could well have been heavily bloodstained. Police have not recovered the knife used in the attack.



A sperm enters the egg at journey's end

Struggling sperm's clue to infertility

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

SPERM are such poor swimmers that they need to "surf" along waves created by muscle contractions in the womb, Canadian researchers have found. The absence of such contractions in the muscle layers lining the womb could explain many cases of infertility.

"Sperm are not salmon. They don't swim unaided upstream," Dr Edward Lyons, of the University of Manitoba Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg, *told New Scientist*. "They need these waves to ride on to get to the egg."

He and Dr Clifford Levi used ultrasound to measure the contractions in women seeking treatment for infertility and compared them with a similar number of fertile omen. Although the contractions are imperceptible to women, the measurements showed that they occur at a rate of about three a minute, about 80 per cent of the time in an upwards direction towards the Fallopian tubes. In infertile women the waves were weak, infrequent, or moved downwards.

The contractions seem to be at their best in the middle of the menstrual cycle, when women are ovulating, and are also encouraged by prostaglandins, natural products found in seminal fluid that trigger muscle contraction.

Dr Lyons said that women who have difficulty conceiving with no obvious cause may have abnormalities in the direction, frequency or intensity of the contractions. Their best chance is to pick the time of ovulation when the waves are likely to be at their most helpful.

£14,000 damages for woman sacked over daughter's 'memories' of abuse

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A SOCIAL worker sacked by a children's charity after her daughter accused her of sexual abuse was yesterday awarded the maximum compensation of £14,000 by an industrial tribunal.

The woman, who cannot be named for legal reasons, told the tribunal that her daughter was a victim of the controversial psychological technique that invites people to "remember" being abused as children.

Opponents of the technique, developed in the United States, have named it "false memory syndrome". They claim that people are persuaded to believe things happened to them when they did not.

Five hundred cases have been brought to the attention of the British False Memory Society since it was set up 18 months ago. Roger Scotford, director of the society, said that in every case the alleged victims had been urged to sever all links with their families in an effort to "heal" themselves.

The industrial tribunal at Newcastle upon Tyne was told that the daughter made her claims of abuse between the ages of six and 11 shortly after being referred to a psychologist for treatment for depression. Her mother was suspended from her job with Barnardo's and was dismissed although she was never questioned by police about the allegations.

The woman, who is married with two other children, lives in from Newcastle upon Tyne. She said: "The last time I saw my daughter was when she went on holiday two years ago. The next day I went to work and was suspended. The whole thing was a bolt out of the blue.

"My daughter had planned the holiday to get away from me after telling my superiors she had been abused as a youngster."



Ramona: father awarded $500,000 over sex claims

She said the allegations had destroyed her life: "I can't believe I was sacked on the basis of wholly unacceptable information. Employers and especially therapists should have proper guidelines so cases like this do not happen again."

Mr Scotford said: "All the families who contact us have a similar story. A germ of an idea is put into a person's head by the therapist. He tells them that they have been abused as children but forgot all about what happened because one day their memory chose to blot it out for good.

"Before long these people are having false memories and really do believe they have been abused when they haven't. It is akin to brainwashing."

In May, an American man won $500,000 damages after accusing therapists of planting thoughts of abuse in his daughter's mind. Gary Ramona's marriage broke up and he lost his highly paid job after Holly, 23, "recovered" memories of incest during treatment for an eating disorder.

Barnardo's refused to comment on the tribunal decision but is expected to appeal.

At just £1.4m, golden egg is a gift

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE stocking need only be small. A petite ladies' size two would be perfectly adequate. The wallet, however, will have to be bulging to cope with the ultimate Christmas stocking filler of 1994.

Aspreys of Bond Street have it, and will part with it for a mere £1,410,000. It is an egg, of a size that your average hen would class as jumbo, hand-spun from 18-carat white gold, and its surface covered in 220.21 carats of square princess-cut diamonds. The *ne plus ultra* of baubles does have a use, of sorts: inside is a pair of diamond-drop earrings. Aspreys said yesterday it had not yet sold its sole example.

All the best stocking fillers have the virtue of being fun, gimmicky but fundamentally unnecessary. Harrods offer a battery-operated card shuffler at the more reasonable price of £14.95, or a teddy bear which plays Elvis Presley's song of the same name at the press of a button for £29.95.

The store's life-size cuddly dromedary at £1,950 would not fit into even the largest stocking, but their £41 toilet brush in the shape of a cactus would. The donor of the latter, however, might stand accused of a certain lack of romance. Stocking fillers properly belong in the under-a-tenner category, a market for which even Harrods caters. A pair of self-lying shoelaces, perhaps, at £3.99, or a plastic mackintosh in the store's distinctive green at £1.95. At the other end of the retail spectrum, Woolworths are enjoying brisk sales of a gymnastic Barbie doll at £9.99 and Biker Mice at £4.99. Biker mice, for the uninitiated, are furry mice on bikes.

But why should children have all the fun? Is not one's dog, cat, parrot or goldfish entitled to a stocking? Edible fruit-flavoured toys for parrots come at £3.95, glow-in-the dark fish-tank gravel, which will make the poor creatures imagine they are swimming near Sellafield, costs £3.95 a pound, while a packet of Equiminis for horses is a mere 95p.

Ready-made stockings for dogs at £9.50 from Harrods — and you have over 140,000 of them for the price of one Asprey egg — include a toy, choc drops, chews and dog crisps, while a similar item for cats features dried fish and a collar. Sadly, it does not include any Biker Mice.

Christmas 1994: top selling videos

1 Jurassic Park
2 Mrs Doubtfire
3 Snow White
4 Free Willy
5 Aladdin
6 From The Bushes — Jethro
7 Gone With The Wind
8 *Take That* Live In Berlin
9 Billy Connolly Live '94
10 Muppets' Christmas Carol
11 Bambi
12 Homeward Bound

Top selling confectionery at Woolworths

1 Cadburys Dairy Milk (1kg bar)
2 Galaxy Twin (150gm)
3 Cadburys Roses (1.8kg tin)
4 Ferrero Rocher (250gm pack)
5 Cadburys Roses (1kg)
6 Cadburys Roses (750gm hamper)
7 Ferrero Rocher (tray of 24)
8 Quality Street (1lb)
9 Galaxy (500gm bar)
10 Cadburys Dairy Milk (200gm bar)

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Air strikes across Europe threaten Christmas breaks

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

HUNDREDS of thousands of travellers to Spain could have their holiday plans ruined by a pilots' strike over the Christmas holiday. Travellers to Greece and France may also face long delays because of strikes threatened by airline and ground-handling staff.

Although Britain's airports are predicting record business this winter and travel agents have almost sold out of Christmas overseas packages, a dispute between pilots and Iberia, the state-owned Spanish airline, is threatening to turn into an all-out stoppage. The action is due to run from December 28 to January 12. The dispute over pay could also cause disruption to passengers to Spain on airlines other than Iberia and its associated airlines Viva Air and Aviaco.

Unions representing ground crews and pilots from the French domestic airline Air Inter are threatening stoppages over the holiday period, although a spokesman for the state-owned airline said he could not say how services would be affected. Internal flights in France will be involved but flights into the country on other airlines will not be affected.

Ground staff at Greek airports will hold two 48-hour strikes on December 23, 24, 30 and 31, unions said yesterday. The strike will affect 70 per cent of flights in and out of Athens. Elsewhere, the Christmas period is turning into a season of bumper sales with Eurostar putting on extra trains to cope with demand to Paris.

Nearly 1,400,000 passengers will pass through Heathrow and Gatwick airports in the five days leading up to Christmas Eve — an increase of 11 per cent on last year. By January 3, Heathrow expects to have handled 1.7 million travellers. At Gatwick, staff said tomorrow and January 2 would be their busiest days, and airport authorities are asking passengers not to wrap up Christmas presents to speed security checks.

The travel agent Lunn Poly said that all its Christmas holidays had sold out, while Thomas Cook said sales were between 10 and 12 per cent up on last year. The holiday price war took to the seas yesterday as ferry companies prepared to cut fares as part of a January offensive against Le Shuttle.

A spokeswoman for the Automobile Association said the Christmas rush on the roads would begin tomorrow lunchtime and predicted delays on the M5 and M6 at junction 4, the M1 at junction 34, the M4 westbound at Newport and routes out of London.

Blizzards have arrived in the Scottish Highlands, where more than 5,000 people are booked to stay at the ski resort of Aviemore over Christmas. Weather forecasters say, however, that a white Christmas for most of the country is highly unlikely. The forecast for Christmas Day is rain in the North and sunny intervals in the South, with higher than average temperatures everywhere. Sleet and fog are forecast for the next few days.

Although Alpine ski resorts are celebrating the arrival of snow, in Sydney temperatures hit 44C — the hottest December day in 37 years. Railway lines buckled and scores of pedestrians collapsed in the heat.

Forecast, page 22

TOP RESORTS

The ten best-selling Christmas destinations for British holidaymakers are:

1 Tenerife
2 Gran Canaria
3 Cyprus
4 Lanzarote
5 Costa del Sol
6 Fuerteventura
7 Costa Blanca
8 Majorca
9 Malta
10 Caribbean

Worms and fungus make festive menu

BY LUCY BERRINGTON

EIGHTEEN people seeking an alternative to festive indulgence have found a drastic solution: they are spending Christmas Day on a freezing Welsh hill top learning SAS survival techniques.

The volunteers have paid £50 each to climb 1,000 feet in the Brecon Beacons on Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day they will learn how to skin a rabbit, navigate by the stars and cook a meal of worms, plants and fungus.

The organiser is Mick Tyler, a former member of the SAS who runs the Breakaway Survival School in Hereford. "They will find themselves at one with nature and will regain the skills that people have lost," he said. "There is so much pressure at Christmas these days. When they get back home they'll be the only ones smiling."

He added: "The scenery is incredible, massive waterfalls and caves. I'm hoping it will be cold and clear on the hills with the temperature around zero. They make a lot of new friends and never look back."

John Probert, 67, a widower, is the oldest member of the group and, he says, the fittest. He is a veteran of previous courses. "There's no boozing, nothing upsets you, you don't come across the crowds. We'll cook rabbits if we can catch them with snares." Squirrel might also be on the menu. "Squirrel is a bit like chicken, an acquired taste."

San Fawcett, 43, who works in a Hereford building society, is on her second Christmas trip. The last one was excellent therapy, she says. "It's a break from what I do." She declined to eat worms but said rabbit stew was delicious with brandy. "Last year was beautiful because it snowed on Christmas Eve. It was a perfect Christmas."



Alec Guinness, Maureen O'Hara and the whisky miniatures in Carol Reed's *Our Man in Havana*

Our man in Havana's whiskies find London restaurant home

BY JOHN SHAW

EIGHTY-TWO miniature bottles of whisky that belonged to the late Graham Greene became a memorial to him yesterday. The collection featured in his novel *Our Man in Havana* and in the 1959 film of the book.

The bottles are central to an episode in which the hero, a vacuum-cleaner salesman recruited into the Secret Service, uses them as counters in a game of draughts with the secret police chief. The loser has to drink the miniatures and when the policeman passes out drunk, our man in Havana, played by Alec Guinness, steals his pistol.

The collection was bought for £3,520, against an estimate of £1,500-£2,000, at Christie's South Kensington by Rules Restaurant of Covent Garden.

The author and his brother, Sir Hugh Carleton Greene, former Director-General of the BBC, were regular customers of Rules and their table on the first floor is now part of the Graham Greene room.



Benny Hill, a comedian who loved dressing up

Hugh Latimer, of the restaurant, said: "The bottles, the novel and two stills from the film will now have pride of place there for the future. Graham Greene had his birthday lunch here for 30 or 40 years.

"It was a tradition. He had his own table, table 11, and he would fly over specially for the occasion from Antibes in the South of France. His brother lunched here virtually every day."

The bottles were the top lot in a sale of entertainment memorabilia that included some of the late Benny Hill's costumes. James Parker, 23, a professional comedian, of Kennington, southeast London, who does a Benny Hill impersonation as part of his act, bought his clown's outfit for £528. The black and white checked suit, with a yellow bowler hat, red nose and sequined pink bow tie, will go into Mr Parker's comedy collection.

He said: "I have admired Benny Hill since I can remember. I thought he was the greatest comic genius this country ever produced.

"I particularly wanted this outfit because I loved the sketch it was used in. The clown sketch was one of his finest. He was a born clown." Mr Parker added: "I won't be wearing the outfit and I won't be using it in my own act."

Benny Hill's Scout outfit went for £715 and his baggy schoolboy's uniform for £528.

The outfits were put into the auction by Mary Hillman, 52, of Twickenham, southwest London, a former television make-up artist. She acquired them last year among a collection of about 50 costumes which she bought for £500 from Thames Television, her former employer.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sex attack prisoner given 12 years

A sex offender who kidnapped and indecently assaulted a woman after absconding while on prison leave was jailed for 12 years yesterday. Ian White's victim, a mother-of-four aged 38, fled naked after he drove her in her own car to an isolated road and attacked her.

White, who had been allowed leave prior to completing a three-year sentence for assaulting a baby, admitted the charges at Exeter Crown Court. In 1986 he was jailed for trying to rape a schoolgirl.

Heliport setback

A High Court judge blocked a plan for a floating heliport that would travel up and down the Thames handling up to 22,000 flights a year. The 1,000-ton vessel would have operated from 22 sites between Battersea and the Thames Barrier.

Flood handouts

The European Union has given £400,000 to victims of the Strathclyde floods in which three people died. Social workers have started to deliver Giro cheques to those flooded out. Single people will receive £100 and families up to £250.

Baby killer

A man who drowned his daughter in a bowl of water moments after his 15-year-old girlfriend gave birth was jailed for life by Maidstone Crown Court. Adam Hughes, 53, also known as Tex Vandervelt, who denied murder, buried the body in a field.

Hitchhike ordeal

A man who sexually assaulted and tried to strangle a hitchhiker in a field is being hunted by police. The 30-year-old woman, who had accepted a lift at Camberley, Surrey, is recovering in hospital after the two-hour attack.

Boy's killer jailed

A drunken joyrider who orphaned a boy aged four when he crashed into his family's car was jailed at Cardiff for eight years. Michael Quinn, 19, of Blaengwynfi, West Glamorgan, admitted causing death by dangerous driving.

Train crashes

A woman in her 80s and a child were injured yesterday when a minibus in which they were travelling was hit by a train on an unmanned level crossing at Brampton, Suffolk. None of the people on the train was hurt.

Road fright

Tiny reflectors which look like the eyes of predatory wolves have been installed along roads on Cannock Chase, Staffordshire, by scientists testing whether they will frighten deer away from heavy traffic.

Fish takeaway

Thieves broke into the Sea Life Centre in Weymouth, Dorset, and stole all the edible fish on display including bass, cod and rays. More hostile specimens such as conger eels and jellyfish were untouched.

Pines scented

Durham Council has sprayed its evergreens with sewage to deter thieves who steal them at Christmas. A spokesman said: "Anyone silly enough to put one in his warm home will end up with a smelly Christmas."

Oh yes they will!

Four pantomime competition judges in Cornwall will watch 48 amateur productions this Christmas, including six *Dick Whittingtons*, and a performance of *The Birthday Princess* on the Isles of Scilly.

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When war begins, water is more deadly than guns

BY JOHN YOUNG

MORE people are killed in localised wars by contaminated water than by bullets. With that claim the British Red Cross has launched a campaign against what it calls "the abuse of water in conflicts".

In many parts of the world water shortages are an endemic problem, even in peacetime. A resolution passed at the United Nations environment conference in Vancouver in 1976 that everyone should have clean, safe water by the end of the century has proved to be empty rhetoric.

When fighting erupts the risks of disease are hugely multiplied. One of the most horrific aspects of the continuing slaughter in Rwanda has been the epidemic of cholera. The deliberate shelling of water supplies has had devastating effects in Afghanistan, Iraq and Bosnia. Not only are people put at risk from diseases such as cholera, typhoid, hepatitis and dysentery, but they often have to brave sniper and shell fire to collect supplies from standpipes. There is a more insidious long-term threat: neither agriculture nor industry can function without water.

The International Committee of the Red Cross recently organised a conference in Montreux, Switzerland, for relief and medical experts which agreed on the need for urgent action to standardise water and sanitation equipment used by aid agencies and to recruit and train more water engineers and public health experts.

It also emphasised the need for greater awareness of the vital importance of water supplies, particularly among the military responsible for protecting them. It pointed out that a healthy person could survive up to a month without food but for only three days without water and that the biggest risk was to children.

At a practical level, in Bosnia the British Red Cross has begun to repair the main pipeline supplying Sarajevo, to restore water supplies in Mostar, to construct a new supply system in Derventa and to build a new dam in Srebrenica. Geoffrey Dennis, the international director of the British Red Cross, said: "This has been a highly successful project for us, and we are now looking to carry out similar projects in Kupres and Gorazde. Funding programmes such as these is crucial in ensuring that the victims of the conflict have the basic requirement to live."

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THE TIMES Christmas Appeal



Farmer shot dog's unwanted suitor

A FARMER blasted his neighbour's dog with a shotgun because it had mated with his prized spaniel while the bitch was carrying a litter of valuable pure-bred puppies.

Robert Hayball had complained about Ian Gillingham's collie, which was regarded as a menace by other dog owners and had been roaming on his land, Bridport magistrates were told yesterday.

When he learnt what the collie had done he killed it with shots from both barrels on the lawn of his home in Broadwindsor, Dorset. He reloaded his gun and fired again.

Hayball buried the corpse but telephoned Mr Gillingham a couple of days later and confessed. He was arrested and his shotgun and licence were seized.

Yesterday he admitted causing criminal damage, but after reading letters of support from other landowners the magistrates granted him a one-year conditional discharge and ordered him to pay £40 costs.

John Puddicombe, representing Hayball, told the court that the spaniel was expecting up to eight pups worth £700 to £800 each. The farmer feared for their wellbeing after the spaniel had been lured away by the collie.

The collie had a reputation for roaming the area and mating with any available bitch. When Hayball saw the dog on his lawn he thought the best thing was to dispatch it there and then. "He felt there was very little option left open to him."

Mr Puddicombe produced letters from residents who had complained about the collie, including a retired magistrate and a brigadier. He said that Hayball, leader of Marshwood Vale Young Farmers' Club, had experienced trouble with the collie twice before. When his spaniel was on heat the dog had stayed outside his house, howling throughout the night and scratching on the door.

The court was told that any claim for compensation for the dead collie would have to be made by Mr Gillingham through the civil courts.

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Thousands flee as Russians pound Chechen capital

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN GROZNY

A HUMANITARIAN tragedy was unfolding in the breakaway republic of Chechenia yesterday as thousands of refugees fled continued fighting around the capital Grozny, where the civilian death toll continues to mount.

Conditions for those remaining in the snowbound city worsened last night when a power cut caused a blackout. Although the immediate cause of the cut was not clear, Russian planes have been trying to hit a nearby electricity generating station and carried out another air raid in that vicinity yesterday evening.

The power cut hit both of Grozny's main hospitals. The doctor at the First Republican Hospital said: "If this goes on, soon it will be impossible for us to work at all.

"We cannot operate without electricity and without heating our badly wounded patients will die of exposure. You cannot light wood fires in a hospital."

The Chechens have claimed that 135 civilians have been killed as the fighting has reached the outskirts of the city. The Russians said 11 soldiers were killed overnight when a reconnaissance unit was ambushed.

Most houses in Grozny are by now bitterly cold, with people huddling around the gas stoves in their kitchens to keep warm. Russian troops now control the main gas refinery northwest of the city, although supplies are not yet exhausted.

With Russian planes continuing their intermittent bombardment of targets near the city, many spent their third night in damp and freezing cellars. At the inaccurately name French Hotel, where many Western correspondents are staying, a crowd of Chechen and Russian women poured in after one explosion, weeping and demanding that they tell the world what is happening.

"Russian television says that all civilians have left Grozny," Lydia Mukashenko, a Russian woman, screamed. "Why don't you tell them that we are still here. Maybe then they would stop killing us."

A steady stream of civilian casualties is coming into the hospitals, though it is difficult to judge the exact figures because many of the lightly wounded are sent on immediately to clinics in the countryside. At the main children's hospital we spoke to Fatima Selimkhanov. She was sitting in the dark at the bedside of her three children, who were badly wounded in a rocket attack in the frontline village of Artyomskoye on Tuesday.

Mrs Selimkhanov had already fled from the heavily bombarded village of Pervomaiskoye, and was staying with friends, five of whose seven children were killed. The recently rebuilt children's hospital was dark and rapidly growing cold.

Russian assurances made yesterday by Andrei Kozyrev, the Foreign Minister, that the army is making progress and has succeeded in isolating the Chechen fighters was not confirmed by an inspection of the main front line eight miles from Grozny.

Compared to the civilian casualties, military casualties among the Chechens have so far been extraordinarily slight. This is a reflection of the fact that much of the "fighting" so far has consisted of long-range bombardment, which has not been nearly as heavy as reported by much of the media, and that the small, elusive groups of Chechen fighters are very hard to hit.

During the day the Russians have the advantage but at night the Chechens creep up towards the Russian tanks and attack them with rocket propelled grenades. Walid Taisurov, a Chechen fighter, claimed near Petropavlovskaya. He said that the Chechens are following General Dzhokhar Dudayev's orders to "hit and pull back".

According to Mr Taisurov and other Chechen fighters, the Russian soldiers are unwilling to leave the protection of their armour and attack on foot. "In three days of fighting for Petrovpavlovskaya, I have not once seen Russian infantry in the open," he said.

The morale of the Russian conscripts is probably being sapped by the extreme weather conditions, and even some Chechen women have expressed sympathy for the "poor, stupid Russian kids" out in the open.

At Dolinskoye at the other end of the Chechen defensive line, Hassan Maiev, the local commander, had his own explanation for the Russian failure to advance: "Their hearts are not it because they don't want to be here and they know that their Government is wrong. We are fighting with our whole hearts because we belong here and we are fighting to defend our homes."

Yeltsin 'will not repeat' Stalinist expulsions

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

PRESIDENT YELTSIN yesterday pledged that refugees who had fled Chechenia would be allowed back.

The Russian Federal Migration Service estimated that 60,000 refugees have moved out. "Under no circumstances will the deportation of Chechen people repeat itself," said the Russian leader, aware that he risks being compared with Stalin, who exiled the entire Chechen population to Central Asia in 1944, with the loss of tens of thousands of men, women and children who died en route.

In Geneva, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) reported that at least 16,000 people had fled their homes because of the fighting, and said the number of displaced people could rise.

The agency said a shipment of 4,000 blankets and 1,500 food parcels was on its way to the town of Khasavyurt, east of the regional capital Grozny, where about 8,000 displaced people had gathered.

In Moscow, the Russian Government accused mercenaries from Azerbaijan, Afghanistan and Ukraine of "extreme cruelty" and "bloody atrocities" in Chechenia. It warned them that their actions in support of Chechen fighters "may complicate relations between Russia and the countries where the mercenaries continue to arrive from".

A day after Russia closed its borders with Georgia and Azerbaijan to contain the conflict, Moscow's Ostankino television said border guards had turned away at least 6,000 people from those countries — many of them armed mercenaries — who had sought to enter Chechenia.

Dzhokhar Dudayev, the Chechen leader, last night repeated a call for international pressure on Moscow to halt its offensive. "We call on the world community, the United Nations and other international organisations to use all their political influence to put pressure on Russia to prevent the conflict escalating," the general said.

Calling on Islamic countries to shelter Chechens fleeing the fighting, he added: "It is not too late to stop the bloodshed. Responsibility for the perfidious aggression against the Chechen people and its consequences is entirely down to the political and military leadership of Russia."



President Mandela hugs his estranged wife, Winnie, after she won a seat on the ANC's national executive committee

ANC re-elects Winnie Mandela

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN BLOEMFONTEIN

WINNIE MANDELA, the estranged wife of South Africa's President, completed her rehabilitation in the eyes of black voters yesterday when she was re-elected to the national executive committee of the African National Congress with one of the largest majorities.

At the 49th national conference in Bloemfontein, where the first ANC conference took place in 1912, Mrs Mandela gathered more votes than any other woman in the party — 1,802 — to end fifth among the 60 members elected to the executive. The body will be the highest authority in the party until the next national conference in two and a half years.

As she was welcomed to the dais when the result was announced, she was swept into a vast, almost passionate embrace by her husband, who has written in his autobiography that he believes her innocent of any wrongdoing.

Mrs Mandela led delegates in singing a freedom song. Dressed in party colours of green and gold, she swayed and clapped in time to the music, glancing often towards her husband. She was one of a number of militants elected to the committee. They included her close ally, Peter Mokaba, whom she defended recently when he was accused of being a police spy. He was once leader of the ANC Youth League.

The rest of the new committee proved a mixture mainly of the old hard Left, Communists, Robben Island veterans, and moderates. The hard Left included Pallo Jordon, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, an intellectual Marxist. Joe Slovo, of the South African Communist Party, was also elected.

The trade union movement did not do as well as it might have expected, with a number of prominent names failing to make it on to the list. Chris Dhlamini, for example, the deputy president of Cosatu, failed to gather enough votes. Another casualty was Chris Nissen, newly elected leader of the Western Cape Party. That province of the ANC is racked by dissension and scandal, and is opposed by the only National Party administration in the country. It is paying the price of electoral failure.

The question of corruption and inefficiency was raised by President Mandela in his closing speech. He said: "A parasitic class within the African National Congress has emerged." He urged regional parties to raise their own funds instead of depending on national headquarters.

One of the most surprising results of the election to the committee was the performance of Major-General Bantubonke Holomisa, the former military dictator of the Transkei homeland. He overthrew a democratically elected Government and ended up leading one of the least efficient administrations in Africa. He is Deputy Minister of the Environment, and came top of the NEC list with 1,915 votes. Amid cheers, he said: "I will not overthrow this Government."

The conference ended with a rousing send-off from its President, who insisted that the party had come out of the meeting strengthened, unified and prepared for its next test, local government elections planned for October.

Mr Mandela said that it was unrealistic to have expected "within a period of seven months a Government of men and women, who are now in Government for the first time", to have satisfied the immediate expectations of the mass of the people.

Cyril Ramaphosa, re-elected as Secretary-General, said at the conference that "there was not a single word of disgruntlement, dissent or dissatisfaction with the way the Government has been performing".

Dead murder suspect linked to 17 killings

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

A SUSPECTED serial killer shot dead in custody by South African police at the weekend was linked yesterday to 17 murders.

The police said that David Selepe, who was due to appear in court charged with killing 11 young women, had confessed under interrogation to four more murders.

But, Colonel Tienie Halgryn said, Selepe was not asked to sign an affidavit and the confession was not recorded. Pretoria police also said they were examining whether the murders of two young women in their area had been committed by Selepe. Two senior policemen have been assigned to investigate the circumstances of Selepe's death, the 27th in police custody this year. The police say he was shot after picking up a piece of wood and attacking one of three officers who had taken him to an area where the bodies of 11 victims of the so-called "Cleveland strangler" were found.

Selepe had established a private school in Springs, east of Johannesburg, but was chased off the premises last year by students who accused him of raping three pupils.

Pele joins Brazil Cabinet

Brasilia: President-elect Fernando Cardoso yesterday announced a Cabinet team which included Pele, the soccer star.

Senhor Cardoso, due to take office on January 1, named close allies to the two main posts. Pedro Malan, the central bank president is to be Finance Minister, and Luiz Felipe Lampreia, a career diplomat, will be Foreign Minister.

Pele, whose real name is Edson Arantes do Nascimento, has been appointed the Special Minister for Sports. *(AFP)*

38 killed in clash at dam

Manila: At least 16 Philippine soldiers and 22 Muslim guerrillas have been killed in a three-day battle over disputed land rights at the site of an irrigation dam in Cotabato province on Mindanao island (Abby Tan writes).

The rebels say they have not been compensated for land expropriated by the Government to build the £34-million Japanese-funded dam. Sporadic fighting has continued since October, when rebels kidnapped a South Korean engineer working on the project.

Rare disease ruled out

Cape Town: Congo fever, a highly infectious haemorrhagic disease, has been ruled out as the cause of death of Andrew Fairclough, 28, from Hertfordshire, who died in a Cape Town hotel after exhibiting symptoms of the disease.

Tests are being carried out to find out what killed him. Fear of a Congo fever outbreak caused many cancellations at the hotel. *(AFP)*

Two jailed in heroin trial

Sydney: Che Busarah Bin Che Yook, 36, a Malaysian, was jailed for up to 26 years for importing 112lb of heroin, worth an estimated £55 million, the largest single shipment ever seized in Australia.

His accomplice, Wanchai Sae-Sung, 33, a Thai, was sentenced to a maximum of 16 years in prison. *(AP)*

Credit cards curtailed

Seoul: South Korea, fearing that heavy spending by young people is contributing to inflation, is to stop students, people under 20 and workers with less than a year on the job from receiving credit cards, officials said. *(AP)*



Muscovites puzzle over the first parking meters to be installed in Russia. The 200 meters were introduced yesterday on a six-month trial to stop double-parking and bring in revenue. Motorists who neglect to pay the 50 pence an hour rate will have their cars clamped after ten minutes

Britain escapes lightly as EU cracks down on farm fraud

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN BRUSSELS

IN ITS most aggressive clampdown on farm fraud, the European Commission yesterday imposed record fines of £1.2 billion on EU member states.

The fines, for failing to monitor abuses of EU farm spending, amount to 5 per cent of the agriculture budget. While this represents only the tip of the EU fraud iceberg, it signals the Commission's determination to react to increased public demand for tougher action on agricultural budget abuses.

Britain came off more lightly than most EU members, with a fine of only £2.5 million, largely for accountancy errors. Italy, Spain, Germany and Greece were found guilty of the most flagrant abuses and suffered substantial penalties.

After sending a team of auditors to all member states, the Commission "found deficiencies in procedures which laid the Community budget open to fraud or irregularity" in the 1991 accounts. Under EU law, the Commission is entitled to recover the funds, which were lost through fraud and abuse due to insufficient control mechanisms. Technically, the recovery will occur through cuts in future agricultural subsidies.

The Commission said that "instead of the Community paying for the irregularities, it is the member state's national budget which must pay the cost. These charges, which for the 1991 clearance total 5 per cent of expenditure, can be a substantial shock."

About £800 million will be recovered from Italy and Spain for their failure to stick to EU milk quotas. Italy will be subjected to a £600-million fine, which includes a long list of misdemeanours, ranging from a breach of milk quotas to irregularities in cheese storage. Greece failed to implement proper tobacco controls and was fined £25 million in compensation payments for tobacco of unacceptably low quality that was dumped on third country markets.

The bulk of Germany's fines came from unauthorised export subsidies for beef and for exceeding its milk quotas.

The Commission noted yesterday that "unlike in most areas of Community operations when a member state does not comply with EEC directives, the Commission does have a certain amount of power to oblige them to respect legislation in the agricultural sector".

The size of this year's fines were boosted by Italy's and Spain's failure to meet their milk quotas. A long-standing row over the fine was settled by Finance Ministers last month.

Typically, the agricultural fines run at about £200 million a year.

Moscow shops ordered to light up for Christmas

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

MOSCOW'S shopkeepers who have been thinking of giving the season's celebrations a miss have been warned to think again by the city's tough municipality.

In a directive that may be lacking in Christmas spirit but effective in weeding out the city's potential scrooges, Moscow has ordered every store to illuminate shop fronts or face being fined.

"It is quite simple, every shop has to put up lights and decorations and enter the Christmas spirit," said an official at the city's department of consumer affairs yesterday. "If not they will be sorry. We will fine them." The move was ordered by Yuri Luzhkov, Moscow's no-nonsense mayor, who is so obsessive about smartening up his sprawling metropolis that in the past he has resorted to expelling aliens to keep the homeless off the streets and has used work gangs to keep the city tidy.

The order issued this week seems to have worked. On every main street in the city shops have gone to extraordinary lengths to brighten up their display windows with festive scenes not witnessed in Russia since the Revolution, when Christmas was banned as an official holiday and replaced by the atheist New Year celebration.

Nevertheless, not all Muscovites were impressed with the order, which came only days ahead of the Russian Orthodox Christmas, celebrated on January 6. "I would not have minded if they had asked us politely to do our bit," said Marina Nazarenko, who is helping to decorate displays at the Danilsky department store. "But to issue this order so late is not very helpful."

The English language *Moscow Times* said that the city's mayor may not quite have understood the point of a Western-style Christmas, and wondered whether the next step would be to put Santa's sleigh over Lenin's mausoleum.

"Doubtless Luzhkov means well," the newspaper said in an editorial. "But there is nonetheless something discomfiting about introducing coercion into festivities. Perhaps a lifetime of choreographed May Days and Great October Revolution anniversary parades has left a mark too deeply ingrained to be wiped away."

The decision of Moscow's municipality may not be in the spirit of the festival celebrating the birth of Jesus, but somebody else would certainly have approved of the methods used. Yesterday was the 115th anniversary of Stalin's birth.

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Carter's 'private' peace mission masks Clinton policy switch in Bosnia

BY MISHA GLENNY

The agreement brokered by Jimmy Carter, the former US President, between the Bosnian Government and the Bosnian Serbs is looking confused and messy already. It is not, however, without its merits.

Above all the four-month ceasefire, which could come into effect by the end of the month, will give all sides in the war a break as winter sets in.

But Mr Carter has played an additional role in Bosnia: he has offered cover to the White House, which has been coy about the dramatic switch in its approach to the Bosnian crisis since fighting flared around Bihac last month. At the time, Anthony Lake, President Clinton's National Security Adviser and one of the Administration's most fervent supporters of the Bosnian Government, wrote in a memo to the President that "Bihac's fall has exposed the inherent contradictions of trying to use Nato air power coercively against the Bosnian Serbs when our allies have troops on the ground attempting to maintain impartiality in performing a humanitarian mission." He concluded that "the stick of military pressure seems no longer viable".

Since then the Administration's policy has moved ever closer to that of Britain, France, Germany and Russia. Mr Carter's visit has been consistently advertised as "private". But European diplomats suspect there has been too much protesting. "We believe the Carter trip was proposed by Charles Redman, not by Karadzic," one diplomat said, referring to talks between the Bosnian Serbs and President Clinton's former envoy to Yugoslavia several weeks ago.

The former President was offered extensive briefing by the State Department and during the marathon negotiations with Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader on Monday, Mr Carter was in close telephone contact with Washington for most of the day.

But it is the substance of the agreement that has confirmed to the European members of the Contact Group that the Carter initiative was less than private. "The agreement implies that all sorts of things about the Contact Group peace plan are still up for discussion. Until now the Americans have been loathe to admit this," the diplomat said. "But by supporting Carter, they appear to have changed position again."

The Carter visit should not be viewed in isolation. Yesterday the combined efforts of the United Nations, European Union, America and Russia, succeeded in reopening the *autoput*, Croatia's main artery from Zagreb to the east, three years after it was sliced at two points by rebel Serbs.

Formerly known as the Highway of Brotherhood and Unity, symbolising Tito's post-war reconciliation of Serbs and Croats, yesterday's opening is part of a wider economic agreement between Zagreb and Knin, the Croatian Serb capital, which represents a significant breakthrough in the crisis. On the surface there is little to link Mr Carter's visit with the *autoput*. But the tortuous negotiations between Zagreb and Knin are intimately linked with attempts to shift some logs from the jam blocking progress in Bosnia.

In the middle of January, two critical deadlines fall due in immediate succession. Firstly, the UN Security Council will decide whether Serbia has kept its word and sealed the borders with the Bosnian Serbs — a move which led the UN to reopening Belgrade airport and lifting sanctions on cultural and sporting links. Madeleine Albright, the US Ambassador to the UN, has consistently claimed that material and fuel is leaking down to Pale from Belgrade. The European powers fear Washington wants to close Belgrade airport again. They believe Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian President, is committed to a peaceful settlement and needs it urgently to ward off growing nationalist opposition to his rule.

The Americans have claimed that fuel going to Croatian Serbs is being syphoned off by Bosnian Serbs. This is the main reason Lord Owen, the EU's mediator in the former Yugoslavia, has invested so much effort in persuading the Croatian Serbs to reopen the *autoput* — no more aid for Knin need go through Bosnian Serb territory, reducing the likelihood that Washington will insist on reimposing sanctions on Serbia. "The opening of the highway means that the EU's *modus vivendi* for Croatia has been established," Lord Owen said yesterday. "It acts as an incentive now to have a settlement in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the lifting of all the major sanctions against Yugoslavia."

The second deadline in January is the following week when Bob Dole, the Senate majority leader, attempts in Congress to lift the arms embargo on the Bosnian Government. The Clinton Adminstration is now resolutely opposed to its once favoured policy of "lift and strike". If the Carter ceasefire works, it will give President Clinton sorely needed ammunition to defend his Bosnian policy.

UN claims peace breakthrough as snow halts fighting

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO AND TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

UNITED NATIONS officials scrambled to capitalise on the Bosnia-wide ceasefire brokered by Jimmy Carter, set to begin at noon tomorrow, as observers questioned the price that the international community paid to bring the Bosnian Serbs back to talks.

The Clinton Administration last night remained uncertain about the exact nature of the former President's achievement. "I don't think Carter has pulled anything out of a hat," one White House official said. "What has he accomplished that has not been accomplished in Bosnia ten times before and then disintegrated in a few hours or days?"

A UN spokesman in Sarajevo urged the warring sides to exercise "maximum restraint" in the run-up to the ceasefire deadline. A heavy snowfall, the first of the year to blanket Sarajevo and other towns, appeared to have encouraged combatants to hold their fire after several days of intense ceasefire violations around the Bosnian capital and heavy fighting around the north-western Bihac "safe area".

Serb forces fired tank shells, mortar rounds and large rockets into the inhabited part of the partly-overrun "safe zone" for the second day running, the UN reported. There were more than a dozen civilian casualties in one of the worst days of fighting that the protected zone has seen, but UN commanders shied away from responding to the attacks.

Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, the UN commander in Bosnia, had threatened airstrikes against the Serbs for assaults such as those on Bihac, a bluff the Serbs appear to have called successfully. "It is not okay to attack civilians," Lieutenant-Colonel Gary Coward said. "For the moment the decision was taken to protest in the strongest written and verbal way."

Yasushi Akashi, the UN special envoy in the region, is to fly to Sarajevo today and meet both the Serb leaders and the Bosnian Government. General Rose is scheduled to return from pre-Christmas leave this evening.

While there is scepticism about the value of Mr Carter's venture, a few UN officials and military officers believe that the agreement he signed with the Serbs was critical in bringing them back to talks.

"He worked very hard on getting the Serbs categorically to accept the [Contact Group] plan and he just could not," a UN official familiar with details of the Carter initiative said. "Instead of giving up and calling it a failure, he decided to pursue the other option." He added: "It has created an excellent opportunity, though a very fragile one, for progress towards peace. The potential for real and substantive progress towards peace is really there and it was not three days ago."

That, critics say, was at quite a cost. Mr Carter's concessions may lead to the destruction of the five-nation Contact Group peace proposal and open the door for the Serbs to force the Bosnian Government and international community to capitulate at the negotiating table.

Mr Carter has suggested that his mission and the four-month ceasefire could ultimately bring the conflict to an end. The two sides remain in dispute over the international peace plan which would divide Bosnia almost evenly between the Muslim-Croat federation and the Bosnian Serbs. Under the present plan there is no provision for the Bosnian Serbs to have a political link with Belgrade. They have also rejected the proposed borders drawn up by the Contact Group of Britain, America, Russia, France and Germany. Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, was yesterday reported to have given Mr Carter a document offering radical changes in the distribution of territory, trading land with the Bosnian Government to link the region's eastern enclaves with Serbia. The Government in Sarajevo has rejected all previous offers of such a bridge which would lead to the ultimate evacuation of tens of thousands of Muslim refugees from the towns and villages to the east of the capital. It has been clear that the Bosnians wish to stay as close to the Contact Group proposal as possible, while the Bosnian Serbs are trying to alter a text which previously had been set in stone. Mr Carter has dismissed their disputes as mere "semantics" but those in Washington and Europe involved in the conflict have been continually frustrated by just such disagreements. *The Washington Post* yesterday accused Mr Carter of playing President at a time when the White House was unable to define a coherent policy over Bosnia.



A Sarajevan walks past the Christmas baubles on sale at a market in the city yesterday while the snow falls over the Bosnian capital

Security tightened for Gingrich

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

NEWT GINGRICH has received several death threats and is to be given unprecedented security after he becomes House Speaker on January 4.

The outspoken and highly controversial Republican is to have round-the-clock bodyguards and an armoured limousine to ferry him around Washington, it was disclosed yesterday.

These security arrangements go well beyond those for previous Speakers of the House of Representatives, but none of Mr Gingrich's predecessors was nearly as provocative. In addition, four separate security scares outside the White House in the past three months have left the police and Secret Service extremely jittery.

"My primary concern is for your safety, and the simple fact is that we live in a world where security must play a role in the life of a person in your position," Gary Abrecht, the Capitol's police chief, told Mr Gingrich in a letter. The recent White House incidents "underscore the very real security concerns" facing prominent political figures.

Mr Gingrich had been reluctant to accept the bodyguards and limousine because they smack of the sort of imperial style for which he had denounced the Democrats when they controlled Congress.

At the White House, meanwhile, last night's staff Christmas party seemed unlikely to do much to lift battered spirits. Even before it began, the event had generated more anger than good cheer because Hillary Clinton refused to invite spouses, herself excepted.

The First Lady was said to have argued that more junior staff could attend if husbands and wives were excluded, but that failed to allay the grouses of aides kept from their spouses for most of the year by 70 or 80-hour working weeks. Even more galling, the Clintons invited spouses of the despised White House press corps to last week's parties for the media and posed with them for photographs.

The euphoria and excitement that came after Mr Clinton's inauguration is now a distant memory in the White House and, as his ill-starred presidency reaches its halfway mark, morale has become so much of a problem that he has had to deliver pep talks to his staff. His lurch to the right since the Democrats' devastating defeat in November's congressional elections has caused some acrimony among even his most senior advisers, and an exodus of staff who feel either disenchanted or burnt out has begun.

Dee Dee Myers's resignation as White House press secretary is particularly symbolic because she was one of the first to sign on to Mr Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign and had stuck loyally by him. Her colleagues threw a farewell party for her yesterday: spouses were invited.

North Korea agrees to return pilot's remains

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

NORTH Korea agreed yesterday to return the remains of the American pilot who died when his helicopter crashed there on Saturday, and American officials were hoping that Pyongyang would also release the co-pilot who survived.

The concession came just a day after America said that any further delay in returning the pilots would jeopardise the nuclear pact between the two countries. Under that pact North Korea is to abandon its nuclear weapons programme in return for improved economic and diplomatic relations and two reactors worth $4 billion (£2.6 billion) that do not produce weapons-grade plutonium. The White House welcomed North Korea's "humanitarian" decision to return the body of Chief Warrant Office David Hilemon. It is due to be handed over this morning to Bill Richardson, a Democratic congressman visiting North Korea, before he crosses the demilitarised zone into South Korea.

Pentagon officials said the North Koreans had also assured Mr Richardson that Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Hall would be released shortly.

☐ **Seoul:** An American reconnaissance aircraft crashed about 65 miles south-west of Seoul yesterday. "Both crew members ejected safely from the twin-engine, fixed-wing aircraft prior to the crash," the US military said. *(Reuter)*



Stallone: Hollywood criticised contract

Stallone in $20m deal

Los Angeles: Sylvester Stallone, the star of such films as *Rocky* and *Cliffhanger*, has signed what is believed to be the most lucrative deal conceived between a production company and an actor (Giles Whittell writes).

He will receive at least $20 million (£13 million), or 20 per cent of total profits, from an unspecified film to be made by Savoy Pictures in 1996.

Savoy Pictures has drawn fierce criticism for the deal from Hollywood excutives who fear it will have a knock-on effect on the already inflated salaries of other stars.

Familiar Stone, page 31

Bahrain rounds up 1,500 protesters

BY MICHAEL BINYON DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

MORE than 1,500 people have been arrested after widespread demonstrations in Bahrain, but an information blackout has blocked news reports from reaching the outside world in past weeks, according to official and unofficial reports.

A London-based opposition group also said that three people had been killed in clashes with security forces and added that at least eight people were seriously injured. The protests, largely involving members of the majority Shia community, began on the university campus and focused on the demand for the release of Shaikh Ali Salman, a Muslim cleric who was trained in Iran, and of others who were demanding the restoration of the Bahrain parliament, suspended in 1975.

The protests coincided with a meeting of the six-member Gulf Co-operation Council and led to a clampdown on all news sources. Leaders of the co-operation council, who were surrounded by tight security, discussed regional security and several gave warnings of the threat posed by Iran. Tariq al-Mayyad, Bahrain's Minister of Information, said that many of those detained would be released, but some would stand trial.

The peninsula state, joined to Saudi Arabia only by a long causeway, has long been one of the most liberal and Westernised in the Gulf, and is an important regional headquarters for Western companies, as well as offering air and naval bases to Western forces in the Gulf.

The London-based Bahrain Freedom Movement said the Bahrain security forces began their crackdown on the pro-democracy movement on December 5 to divert attention from a petition calling on the ruling emir to reconvene parliament. The group said that the opposition comprised Shia and Sunni communities, as well as secularists, liberals and Islamists.

The group accused the security forces of attacking demonstrations with teargas and rubber bullets on December 13, provoking further demonstrations all over the country the next day. Further action, using helicopters and teargas, was taken against villages last Friday.

Militants sentenced to death

Jerusalem: Jordan's security court sentenced 11 Islamic militants to death yesterday on charges of taking part in a plot to overthrow the pro-Western Government, carrying out bomb attacks on cinemas and planning to assassinate senior officials (Christopher Walker writes).

Three other defendants had death sentences commuted to life terms at the end of the five-month trial. Four of the accused, mostly Jordanians of Palestinian origin who had returned after fighting Soviet troops in Afghanistan, were given long jail sentences. Seven were found not guilty.

Collision at sea

Lisbon: One sailor died and seven were missing after the oil tanker *New World* and the bulk carrier *Ya Mawlaya* collided southwest of Portugal, but there was no oil spill, naval reports said. *(Reuter)*

Mexico moves

Simojovel, Mexico: A thousand police and troops swept through northern Chiapas, peacefully retaking towns as the authorities moved to regain control of rebel-held territory. *(Reuter)*

Sithole wins

Harare: The Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, 74, once accused of plotting to overthrow the Zimbabwe Government, won a parliamentary seat here — his first democratic poll victory. *(AP)*

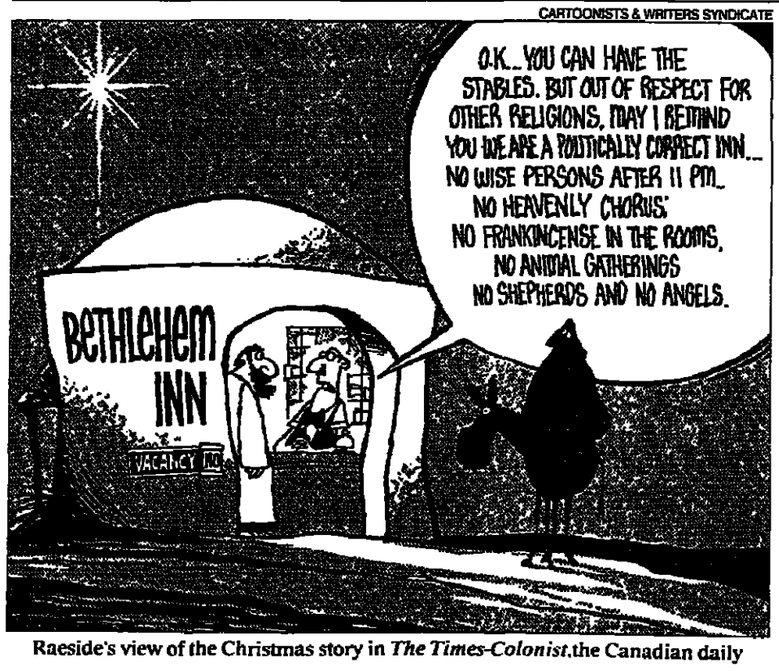
Number's up

Delhi: Authorities have banned state-run lotteries in the Indian capital, saying that the lure of becoming millionaires overnight was turning more people into virtual paupers. *(AFP)*

Just the ticket

Auckland: Moira Poor, 69, who was trapped for three days earlier this month in a lift in a multi-storey car park here, has been awarded £2,051 and free parking for the rest of her life. *(AP)*

CARTOONISTS & WRITERS SYNDICATE



Raeside's view of the Christmas story in *The Times-Colonist*, the Canadian daily

PC Santas hold sway in San Francisco

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

BENEATH the white beard and red cowl of one of America's most cherished institutions, tradition has succumbed to the twin demons of commerce and political correctness. Santa Claus, in the shopping centres of San Francisco, is no longer necessarily white, elderly, plump, or even male.

Jettisoning the detailed profile of a rotund Santa provided by the American classical scholar, Clement Moore, in his poem *A Visit from St Nicholas* (1822), a Californian recruitment agency with a sideline in Father Christmases now welcomes all applicants.

Willie Edward Brown is an aspiring rap artist and part-time Santa at the Southland Mall in Hayward, near San Francisco. Used to being told that "Santa's not black", he usually manages to win round those racially concerned with "a good attitude".

Patrick Landeza, 22, of "Hawaiian-Filipino-Chinese-Irish-Spanish-Guamian" descent, likewise, moonlights as St Nick, and chooses to confront the question of the saint's origins with a bold lie. "He's Hawaiian," Mr Landeza tells perplexed visitors to his grotto.

The centre's marketing manager, who hires her Santas from Western Temporary Services, believes taking liberties with the legend's ethnicity "just makes sense". She says: "If 25 per cent of your customers are Hispanic and 25 per cent are African-American, you want to find a Santa that fits what your customer is."

This may be true in the liberal San Francisco Bay area, a bastion of resistance to California's tough new initiative against illegal immigration known as Proposition 187. But it is not so in Malibu.

In this famous coastal dormitory for the first families of Hollywood, Christmas is celebrated with stubborn conventionality. Effigies of Mary and Joseph swelter in the southern Californian sun beside the Pacific Coast Highway. Christmas trees adorned with fake snow rub shoulders with swaying palms outside beachfront restaurants. And Jonathan Stout, an architect, is so fond of Christmas wreaths that he has strapped one to the radiator of his sports car.

The idea of a black Santa Claus meets with derision here. "An 'African-American Santa in Malibu?" exclaims Howard Sands, collecting for charity. "Are you kidding? He'd be out of here in a day."

While diehards cling to Moore's vision of St Nicholas as "chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf", theories and pranksters abound to confuse America in her continuing and somewhat obsessive search for "the real Santa Claus". He was, according to Don Ward, Professor of mythology and folklore at the University of California at Los Angeles, an 11th-century bishop from the Anatolian city of Myra, whose relics were shipped to Italy in 1057 and remain there to this day.

Terry Randolph, from Iowa, knows better. To silence doubting children, he has formally changed his name to Santa Claus.

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Berlusconi seeks new poll if MPs vote against him

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

SILVIO BERLUSCONI prolonged the agony of the demise of his Government yesterday, telling parliament that Italy faces an early general election if MPs vote him out of office.

The Prime Minister delivered a tough 25-minute speech to the Chamber of Deputies but did not resign immediately as some senior Government officials had predicted. He then said he intended to listen to a debate that began on the future of his seven-month Government. However, it was unclear whether he would wait for MPs to vote on three no-confidence motions tabled by the opposition and his erstwhile allies in the devolutionist Northern League.

Cesare Previti, the Defence Minister, said last night that he expected Signor Berlusconi to resign today without facing the no-confidence votes.

Asked when the Prime Minister would see President Scalfaro, Signor Previti said "an appointment is fixed for tomorrow".

Some sources said that Signor Berlusconi might choose to resign during live television coverage of his reply to the opposition at the end of the rancorous debate. Commentators said he hopes to persuade Signor Scalfaro to allow him to remain at Palazzo Chigi in a caretaker capacity or at the head of a minority Government until an election is held.

The Prime Minister accused his adversaries of "election robbery" because they want to form an alternative Government of the Centre and Left without a fresh election. "If this majority breaks apart, it is necessary to ask the opinion of voters decisively and calmly," Signor Berlusconi said. Much of his speech was abuse hurled at Umberto Bossi, the rebellious Northern League leader.

"Bossi has put to great test not only my patience but that of the Government ... He manifests the behaviour of having a double personality, a triple or maybe even a quadruple one," he said.

Signor Bossi replied by renewing his accusation that the Prime Minister and his "post-Fascist" ally, Gianfranco Fini, were trying to introduce a totalitarian regime. "This will never again be the chamber, honourable Berlusconi and honourable Fini, of the *Fascii* [the Fascist motif of a bundle of sticks] and of the corporations."

The Northern League leader challenged Signor Berlusconi's claim that a new Government without elections would endanger the constitutional principle of popular sovereignty. "You are not the state ... you are not the man repeatedly called to order screaming deputies.

Signor Berlusconi's supporters chanted "Italia, Italia" for three minutes when he concluded and the Northern League MPs shouted "Bossi, Bossi" at the end of his oration.

Signor Berlusconi has appeared to be doomed since he was interrogated by Milan magistrates last week on suspicion of corrupting tax inspectors investigating his Fininvest empire before he took office.

But his 225 days in office have been dogged by the conflict of interest posed by his virtual monopoly over private television and his Government's attempts to curb the powers of the "Clean Hands" team of anti-corruption judges.

Signor Bossi repeatedly sought to persuade the Prime Minister to divest himself of his media interests.

Signor Fini for his part told Signor Bossi that his abandoning the Freedom Alliance meant the end of his regional protest movement. "Today is not the end of the First Republic, it is the end of the League."

Hour of Reckoning and Diary, page 12
Leading article, page 13



A tense looking Silvio Berlusconi at the Quirinale Presidential Palace yesterday

Britain warms to France over the future of Europe

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

ALAIN JUPPÉ, the French Foreign Minister, yesterday briefed John Major on France's hopes of using its coming presidency of the European Union to switch attention from Eastern Europe to the Mediterranean and to pump money into North Africa to stem the rising tide of fundamentalism.

But the Prime Minister and Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, have made it clear they do not see the need, or public support for, new funds for a reinvigorated Mediterranean policy — a theme that will also be a priority for the Spanish presidency that follows the French.

However they both told M Juppé, who has established an easy working relationship with Mr Hurd, that they see a convergence of British and French views on the development of the EU. Britain believes no French political party now wants to see the submergence of national identity in a more closely-knit Europe, and that they share with Britain doubts about the role of the European parliament and the powers of the European Commission.

M Juppé's visit, part of the normal tour of European capitals preceding any presidency, comes as Mr Hurd is setting up four policy groups to look at Britain's relations with Europe and interests in the wider world. These will help to formulate some of the guiding principles underpinning British proposals for the 1996 inter-governmental conference on EU development.

Britain's relations with France have been warming rapidly over the past year, in part because of the intense co-operation between the two over Bosnia and in part because France has been markedly less enthusiastic in issuing calls for the further deepening of the European Union.

The decision of Jacques Delors, the President of the European Commission, not to be a candidate for the French presidency has also eased fears in London of a polarised debate on Europe in France. This, it was feared, might have pushed Paris into taking positions intended to swing opinion more sharply behind France's commitment to an integrated union.

France and Germany agreed to co-ordinate their presidencies in July when Bonn took over the EU leadership. However, in the run-up to the general election, Germany avoided all big decisions that might have proved controversial. The same is likely to be true of France.

Veterans return to the fray

FROM PHILIP WILLAN IN ROME

THE plight of the Berlusconi Government, made up largely of ministerial novices, has thrust two elder statesmen from the Christian Democrat-dominated days of the "first republic" into the limelight as they struggle to resolve an intractable crisis.

The task of finding a successor to Silvio Berlusconi falls on President Scalfaro, a veteran of Italy's revolving-door governments who was elected by a parliament that in turn was chosen under the old proportional voting system and was discredited ultimately by the corruption scandal.

Signor Scalfaro, 76, has made it clear that he wants to avoid dissolving parliament after only nine months of its five-year term. The idea has upset Signor Berlusconi's supporters, who say the formation of an alternative government without fresh elections would amount to electoral fraud.

Some have even hinted that the head of state has skeletons in his cupboard relating to some of the corruption scandals of the first republic. Signor Berlusconi wrote recently to the President apologising for one of the more intemperate attacks on him by Giuliano Ferrara, the government spokesman.



Scalfaro: wants to avoid dissolving parliament

Relations between the old-fashioned President and the brash, impatient Prime Minister have always been frosty. That mutual suspicion has brought another leading figure from the old Christian Democrat Party back on to the stage — Francesco Cossiga.

Signor Cossiga, a former President who earned his place in history with public attacks on the vices of the old political order from the presidential palace, is now sounding out political leaders on the possibility of forming a so-called "government of the rules". Such a caretaker administration would rewrite the rules governing the electoral process and media ownership and aim to lead the country to new elections in a less embittered atmosphere.

of providence but the complete opposite."

The historic debate droned on in an atmosphere that combined high drama with farce. The Prime Minister's speech was delayed for more than an hour as MPs from his Forza Italia demanded and obtained live television coverage of the proceedings. Irene Pivetti, the Speaker, expelled unruly Forza Italia MPs and

Priest and doctor take the stage in presidential farce

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

A PSYCHIATRIST with a suitcase full of cash and the country's most popular priest brought a dash of farce to the French political scene yesterday as yet another candidate declared that duty may force him to join the race.

Raymond Barre, the former Prime Minister and independent conservative who stood in 1988, said the popular support for Jacques Delors, the outsider who withdrew last week, showed that the French "are yearning for a change of air". He was therefore ready to put himself forward if necessary. An economics professor and MP aged 70, M Barre remains popular and his presence in the campaign could dent the fortunes of Edouard Balladur, the Gaullist Prime Minister and current favourite. However, M Barre's relaunch was overshadowed by the latest antics surrounding the camp of Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist party boss and ever-more desperate underdog in the fight with M Balladur.

The political and judicial world was agog at the arrest of Dr Jean-Pierre Maréchal, an eminent Paris psychiatrist who, according to police, was arrested at Charles de Gaulle airport as he took possession of a million francs in cash. Dr Maréchal is alleged to have sought the money as a bribe for persuading Eric Halphen, his son-in-law who is a celebrated examining judge, to drop a politically explosive investigation into the affairs of a Gaullist county councillor.

While legal experts expected M Halphen to be removed from the case, which involves alleged graft by Gaullist officials in Paris, the judge's union depicted him as a victim of political machinations.

Though M Chirac is not directly involved in the Halphen investigation, he has suffered a shower of ridicule this week from his attempt to exercise a new-found role as crusader for the homeless. The episode began on Sunday when Abbé Pierre, a campaigner for the poor and national hero for the past four decades, staged an occupation of an empty block of flats on the fashionable rue Dragon, on the Left Bank. With the plight of the poor and unemployed the top issue in the presidential campaign, M Balladur rushed to assure the priest that his squatting families would not be evicted.

M Chirac, who is also mayor of Paris, went one better, promising to to requisition empty buildings for the homeless. His promise backfired. It was recalled that when Abbé Pierre last staged such a media event, at Christmas 1992, M Chirac had denounced his appeal to take over empty buildings as a Socialist-inspired plot.

"This is starting to look hilarious ... like a pantomime," the pro-Gaullist *Le Figaro* said. France could expect the post-Christmas appearance of "an inevitable third man who will be Raymond Barre or another".

Although the first round of the presidential election is not due until April, a frisson passed through Paris yesterday when President Mitterrand's health bulletin disclosed that he had halted chemotherapy treatment for prostate cancer but was continuing with radiotherapy.

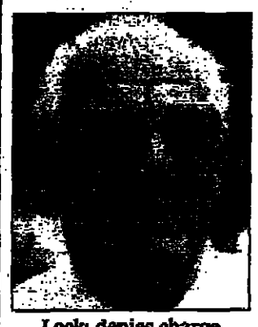
Cricketer's child sex trial opens

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

TONY LOCK, the former Surrey and England cricket hero, who is dying of lung cancer, pleaded not guilty to four indecency charges involving a ten-year-old girl when his trial began in an Australian court yesterday.

The spin bowler, 65, who played 49 tests for England and took 174 wickets, faces the charges over an alleged incident with the girl, his god-daughter, at his home in Perth, Western Australia, in 1980. But six defence witnesses told the Perth district court that Mr Lock and his family did not move into the house where the offences allegedly took place until the next year.

The complainant, who has not been named but is the daughter of a former member of the Australian national women's cricket team, said she had been a friend of Mr Lock's daughter and had been staying overnight at his home in August 1980 when he bent down to kiss her goodnight. She said he had committed four indecent acts against her and had penetrated her.



Lock: denies charge of assaulting girl

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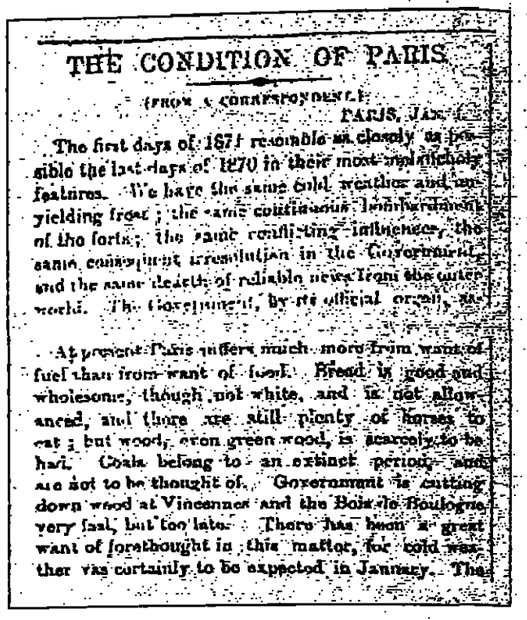
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How an impoverished viscountess became a correspondent for *The Times* in 19th-century France

Secret dispatches from Paris by balloon





THE CONDITION OF PARIS.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, JAN. 1.

The first days of 1871 resemble as closely as possible the last days of 1870 in their most melancholy features. We have the same cold, cruel, and unyielding frost; the same continuous bombardment of the forts; the same conflicting influences, the same contemptible irresolution in the Government, and the same dearth of reliable news from the outer world. The Government, by its official organ, the

At present Paris suffers much more from want of fuel than from want of food. Bread is good and wholesome, though not white, and is not allowanced, and there are still plenty of horses to eat; but wood, even green wood, is scarcely to be had. Coals belong to an extinct period, and are not to be thought of. Government is cutting down wood at Vincennes and the Bois de Boulogne very fast, but too late. There has been a great want of forethought in this matter, for cold weather was certainly to be expected in January. The

Frances de Peyronnet, right (and inset), enjoying her old age at Loseley House in Surrey; far right, one of her columns published in *The Times* in 1871

Only last week I received an invitation from Japan addressed in exquisitely hand-brushed copperplate calligraphy to "Mr Joanna Pitman, Tokyo Bureau Chief, The Times", forwarded by my former assistant in Tokyo who knew it would make me laugh.

It reminded me of the occasion when I was visited by a political writer from a well-known Japanese daily who arrived prepared to interview "Pitman-San" on international political affairs — a subject on which the Japanese are inexplicably and tirelessly fond of reading foreigners' views.

On this occasion the writer



JOANNA PITMAN

walked in with his photographer and, on seeing Pitman-San dressed in a skirt, turned crestfallen to his colleague and said in Japanese: "No, no. This can't be right. *The Times* surely doesn't have a woman in charge in Japan. Either we do without the picture or we cancel the whole thing. It just won't look right on the page."

I mustered my best honorific Japanese. "What a shame," I said, performing an appropriately humble bow. Jaws dropped, eyes popped and the two of them couldn't scarper fast enough.

For all my wimpish complaints of the blatant chauvinism, not to mention the financial rigours and the general hardships, that come with being a foreign "cyarriah woomanu" (career woman) in Japan, my three years in Tokyo were nothing in comparison with the difficulties experienced by the first woman ever to take up her pen as a foreign correspondent for *The Times*.

This was in Paris in the 1870s, at the time of the Franco-Prussian War, and the woman in question was a formidable dame of immense courage and resourcefulness by the name of Frances, Viscountess de Peyronnet. Recommended as a "keen and polished writer" to the manager of *The Times*, she was invited to send two columns every week — addressed simply to "Editor of *The Times*, London" — to reach the paper on Sunday night in time for publication on Monday mornings.

The Viscountess, born Frances Whitfield in Suffolk in 1815, had married into the French aristocracy in 1833 and moved to France, where she made a career of bringing up four children until her husband's sugar plantations in the West Indies went bankrupt. The elderly Viscount's various illnesses, which included, according to contemporary records, "gout to the head", prevented him from working, and all the considerable de Peyronnet fortunes had been squandered by her father-in-law on thousands and thousands of sets of linen sheets (he apparently refused to sleep in a pair of sheets twice and went through 365 sets every year).

The Viscountess had no choice therefore but to become the breadwinner, and after the family was besieged in Paris in 1871, she began filing lengthy political dispatches to *The Times* by balloon under conditions of extreme secrecy, using the byline "A French Correspondent". It is not clear how she gathered her information, but she certainly moved in aristocratic and high-ranking military circles during the day, and used to sit up at night watching over her husband and scribbling away secretly for *The Times*.

Certainly not one to shy away from stating her own partisan views, she was extraordinarily opinionated in some of her columns, to an extent that would never survive the ruthless pruning by today's sub-editors. She was frankly critical of the French in general and of the Empire under Napoleon III in particular. Her description of the peace negotiations after the end of the siege between Jules Favre and Count Bismarck leads her into extravagant flights of prose, pillorying the Frenchman and heaping eulogies on the German.

"Of all the political men in France, M Jules Favre was the one least suited for such a negotiation . . . he has the artist's temperament, is an idealist and sentimentalist, skilful in language, unskilful in affairs, apt to soar above the earth into the vague ethereal. The other [Count Bismarck] is a man of a clear, precise and decided nature, always open, but always prepared, solidly attached to the earth, practical as a man of business, energetic and sure of himself as a gentleman, possessing the artist's nature too, but under control . . . a statesman before all things, recalling Richelieu in some points, the great Pitt in others, a man of the first rank — few of which are seen in a century, and of whom two hardly ever belong to the same nation. Permit me to say that there is no humiliation in being vanquished by such a man."

The Viscountess was permitted to say a lot more besides and has left an extraordinary record from an astute observer and prescient political commentator. She freely admitted, however, to her difficulties in maintaining a judicial and cool distance from her subject. "It is difficult when one hates war, to write with proper equanimity about all that has been going on here for the last ten days, and I catch myself involuntarily grasping my pen like a sword, with which it would be sweet to smite and utterly destroy all those who, by pandering to popular passions and popular ignorance, have brought us to our present pass."

Physical privations did not deter *The Times*'s hot-headed 56-year-old correspondent. Surviving on a diet of boiled rice and red wine with which she made "sauces", and the occasional scrap of horsemeat on a good day, she managed to keep her household going (receiving £5 per journalistic column) through acts of cunning described in her granddaughter's memoirs.

On one occasion, finding herself without balloon post or carrier pigeons, she "found a Frenchman of the servant class who was only too thankful to desert and escape from Paris. His cheek was injected with a slight irritant so that it swelled up, his head was bound up so that he had the appearance of a man who could hardly speak, and he was taught a few words of English" to enable him to get through the lines.

In comparison, my own struggles in 1990s Tokyo, and my anguish at having to wait three days for stale copies of *The Times*, pale into ridiculous insignificance.

Six years after the tragedy, there seems no prospect of bringing the bombers to justice. **Magnus Linklater** calls for a full-scale inquiry

Why the Lockerbie case must not die

The time has come for the Government to publish its evidence on the Lockerbie bombing, and allow the world to judge where responsibility lies for the worst peacetime atrocity since the war.

Yesterday evening, at three minutes past seven, a small group of grieving relatives lit a candle in Westminster Abbey in memory of the victims of Pan Am flight 103 from London to New York which exploded in mid-air on December 21, 1988 and fell to earth killing 270 people. The candle is in Pan Am blue and is designed to burn for 270 hours. For some of those attending, sadness will be tinged with bitterness. Six years after that terrible event, justice has neither been done nor seen to be done. Despite an international investigation conducted by the West's most powerful police and intelligence agencies, no one has been brought to trial and no firm conclusion has been reached on where guilt ultimately lies.

Worse, a campaign is gathering pace which suggests that the British and American Governments are colluding in witholding evidence which might finally reach the truth. One parent, Dr Jim Swire, has gone so far as to accuse Western intelligence of being accomplices before the fact to murder, and of conspiring to pervert the course of justice.

On the surface, what has been done to identify the bombers is remarkable. A unique co-operative effort between the US Justice Department in Washington and the Crown Office in Scotland has assembled what they believe to be a cast-iron case against two named Libyans who are said to have placed a suitcase containing the bomb on board a connecting flight from Malta.

The evidence came not from intelligence contacts, but from painstaking police work in Scotland, from old-fashioned forensic evidence, and a brilliant piece of detective work by a Scottish police officer, Detective Inspector Harry Bell. It was he who traced clothing found in the remains of a suspect suitcase, from Scotland to Malta. He worked from a fragment of green circuit board, smaller than a fingernail, found in the wreckage area, which scientists determined was part of the bomb's timing device. The owner of the shop where the clothing was sold, Mary's House in Sliema, remembered the Libyan purchaser well and identified him. He also volunteered the fact that the Libyan had bought an umbrella. Bell called his team back at base and asked them if an umbrella had been found in the suitcase. It had. It matched up. As one of those involved put it: "At that point the hair stood up on the back of our necks."

The prosecution case against the two Libyans — Abdel Basset Ali Mohmed al-Megrahi and Amin Khalifa Fhimah — is relatively straightforward. Megrahi was head of security for Libyan Airlines; Fhimah was the airline's senior official in Malta. Both were members of ISO, the Libyan equivalent of the KGB. The prosecutors argue that they were instructed to arrange the bombing as an act of revenge for President Reagan's attack on Tripoli in 1986. The circumstantial evidence is overwhelming. There is even a photograph of one of their passports with the visa date proving that Megrahi was in Malta on the day in question.

The British and Americans reached the view that they had a case that would stand up in court, and they called for a trial in Scotland or the United States. That remains their position. But since they brought their indictment three years ago, all efforts to extradite the Libyans have failed. Neither threats, nor sanctions, nor diplomatic pressure have persuaded Colonel Gaddafi to release them. Offers of a trial on neutral territory have been rejected. The result has been stalemate.



Lockerbie: relatives' sadness has been tinged with bitterness

Meanwhile the evidence grows older. Would the Maltese shop-keeper still testify? Would his eyewitness account stand up more than six years after the event? And is that forensic evidence really rock solid? What seemed at one stage to be an open and shut case is becoming anything but. A documentary, made by an American director Allan Francovich, but so far banned from public showing on the grounds that it might prejudice future proceedings, challenges just about every assertion made by the prosecuting authorities. It claims that there is no evidence that the bomb was placed on board in Malta; that the Libyan connection is unproved, and that vital forensic evidence has been falsified to steer investigators away from the real truth.

This is, says Francovich, that the paymaster was in fact Iran; that the bomb was put on board at Frankfurt; and that it was made possible owing to an American drugs operation which was being run from Lebanon and was part of a deal reached by Colonel Oliver North to secure the release of American hostages. The authorities are covering up, he implies, to prevent diplomatic embarrassment with the United States's new allies in the Middle East, and to shield their own involvement.

Francovich has interviewed 120 people in ten countries, including the accused Libyans themselves, the Swiss manufacturer of the timing devices, and many of those involved in the original search for bodies and forensic evidence. Some of what he has uncovered is undoubtedly damaging from the point of view of the Scottish Crown Office and the US Justice Department.

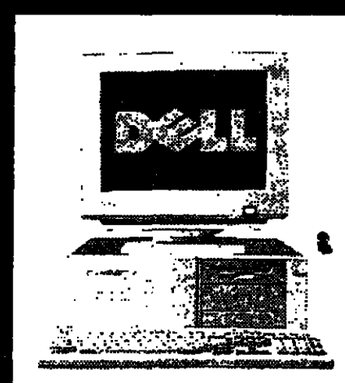
Can these two completely conflicting versions of the Lockerbie saga — the Palestinian and the Libyan — be true? They just might be. It is entirely possible that there was more than one terrorist operation in 1988 aimed at hitting the West. The Libyans were out for revenge. But so were the Iranians after the downing of one of their airliners, hit by an American missile in the Eastern Mediterranean with the loss of 290 lives. Could they have been co-ordinated? No one has a convenient set of minutes from a meeting which may or may have taken place in Tehran, or Beirut or Tripoli some time in 1988.

However, a giant step would be taken if the British and American authorities came clean about their evidence. It is now clear that the Libyans are unlikely ever to come to trial. In any event six years is long enough to wait. The time has come to hold a full-scale inquiry, as the relatives demand. The mountains of evidence assembled in the West must be brought out. The forensic details should be revealed. Only this way can justice be done. Former ministers like Lord Parkinson accepted this view, only to be silenced by Margaret Thatcher. John Major has so far hidden behind the fiction that a local fatal accident inquiry in Scotland is inquiry enough. Others closer to the inquiry believe that a full commission of inquiry is the only route to be taken if justice is to be done.

This could uncover some diplomatic and security scandals, such as why crucial warnings about the bombing were never made public; such as why so many of bookings were cancelled in the days before the flight; that the plane was only two-thirds full at the busy Christmas period. And why Marwan Khreesat, the alleged bomb-maker, who had actually been held by West German security, was released along with 13 other suspected terrorists.

But the alternative — to allow the case to die — is not one that can be contemplated by a civilised country. If the memory of those who died is to be marked by more than candles, the cause of justice must be served by the kind of openness which democracy is meant to represent.

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هكذا من الأصل

New guideliness for back pain ■ An unlikely connection between eyedrops and cold feet ■ A pill to replace an injection

Backs to the wall



GARY Glitter's back stood the strain of his leaping about on the stage no better than Ivan Lendl's could bear the stress of competing in world-class tennis.

Glitter had surgery this week for a prolapsed intervertebral disc: Ivan Lendl is to retire from first-class tennis at the age of 34. They are not alone in their troubles. A committee set up by the Government to recommend guidelines for the prevention and treatment of back pain heard that it accounts for 52 million working days lost each year, that it costs £1.4 billion a year in sickness and invalidity benefit payments, and costs the NHS £41 million a year.

Gone are the days when patients were advised to lie flat on their back on the floor, or on a bed with boards under the mattress. The committee suggested that although two or three days' rest might be inevitable, any longer would be unhelpful because backs recover faster if patients resume physical activities soon.

All doctors fear that backache may be a symptom of something more sinister than a disc lesion, and that other spinal pathology may be present.



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

The committee, in its recent report, recommends that although most back pain can be treated by a GP with access to X-ray facilities, physiotherapists or other skilled manipulation, it was important to refer a patient for a consultant opinion if the pain had been present for six weeks or if any of the following factors applied: the patient's age at time of onset of the trouble was under 20 or over 55; the patient had been subjected to physical trauma; the pain was constant, progressive and not related only to movement; the pain affected the chest; there was a proven or possible history of malignant disease; the patient was taking steroids, illegal drugs or had HIV; the pain made the patient feel unwell. It was also thought significant if patients had suffered weight loss or were unable to bend their back; or suffered from other neurological complaints or bony disease.

For initial treatment, the committee recommends that pain relief should be achieved with anti-inflammatory drugs rather than narcotics. Other doctors might prefer to try transcutaneous spinal analgesia; a Bristol firm is now producing a small machine no bigger than a large packet of cigarettes which delivers a pulse current to the skin over the appropriate level of the spine. After 20 minutes' application it is reported that the pain is often eased for several hours. Since the effect is cumulative, the pain may in some cases later be kept at bay for a day or two.

The National Back Pain Association has complained that the Government has yet to acknowledge the importance of back injuries and pain.

The problems it causes in the patient's daily life results in people taking up 15½ million consultations in family practitioners' surgeries and hospital outpatients every year. The association also feels it anomalous that the NHS will pay for the general practitioner's prescription for a truss, but not for a neck support.

● *The Xpain machine is available from Exmoor House, Exmoor, Bedminster, Bristol BS3 1HD, price £169 plus VAT*

Cold comfort



A YEAR or two ago I was consulted by a patient whose wife had complained that his feet had suddenly become very cold in bed. On questioning, he admitted that he had also noticed that his hands became cold in frosty weather and his nose turned blue.

The answer lay in the drops he was putting in his eyes to control his glaucoma. The non-selective betablocker timolol, marketed as Timoptol or Glaucol, is the basis of the eyedrops now commonly prescribed for glaucoma. These drops are usually very effective at lowering the pressure in the eyeball and are normally free of side-effects.

Cold feet are relatively unimportant but some patients are particularly sensitive to betablockers and may show side-effects, some potentially dangerous, even with small doses.

Dr Paul Diggory, a research physician in Leeds, writing in the journal *Geriatric Medicine*, suggests that elderly people may not connect their use of eyedrops with increasing breathlessness and poor exercise tolerance — other side-effects of betablockers. Dr Diggory warns that betablocking eyedrops should not be prescribed for patients with chronic obstructive airways disease or asthma. Doctors who have been prescribing betablocking eyedrops for patients for some time should, Dr Diggory believes, review their cases periodically to make certain that chest conditions have not developed in the meantime. Other drugs for the treatment of glaucoma are available.

Potent pill



THE news that Pfizers, among other pharmaceutical companies, is testing a pill to help male impotence, has been confirmed by the manufacturers. The pill is likely to be particularly useful in cases where there is no demonstrable anatomical weakness — for those men for whom a Caverject alprostadil injection would now be recommended. Mr Roger Kirby, the consultant urologist, said: "Caverject contains prostaglandin E1; it is a great improvement on papaverine injections as its action is more predictable, lasts for a socially more convenient time and tolerance doesn't seem to develop.

"However some patients don't like the idea of injecting themselves, even if in more than 85 per cent of men, it is almost painless. We are very optimistic that a pill will, in the not too distant future, be introduced which will have the same effect."

The injection and the pill both act on the molecular chemistry of the penis, increasing the blood supply.

The trials of Pfizers' new pill still has some time to run. Meanwhile, Caverject is now obtainable on prescription. Genito-urinary physicians have been trained in its use and instructed in how to teach patients to inject themselves. About 15,000 shots are sold each month which, at about £10 before the chemist's mark-up, will mean that a patient's hour of potency will cost around £20.

Secrets of our soles

Dr James Le Fanu on why orthopaedic surgeons are fascinated by the mechanics of the foot

MARY EVANS



Arthur Rackham's illustration of the Cinderella story: in real life, the foot is a complex biomechanical marvel that provides both stability and propulsion for the human frame

Cinderella, according to folk historians Iona and Peter Opie, "is undoubtedly the best known of all fairy stories — a tale whose strangeness has been a wonder to man for a thousand years". They should know, having traced no fewer than 700 variants of the story across the world.

The most striking moment in this tale is when Cinderella slips her foot into the glass slipper — what does it mean? Orthopaedic surgeon Basil Helal, who knows more about feet than anyone else in Britain, has no doubt. In an article, "The Ascent of Cinderella", in the *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine* he argues that the resonance of this image lies in its sexual symbolism. "The foot is the phallus and the shoe the vagina . . . the perfect fit ensures a perfect mating and so leads to a happy marriage." But the foot is not only a sexual symbol, it is also, he says, a "potent source of eroticism" in its own right.

'Joggers get stress fractures of the bones of the foot'

Foot fetishism is common and its more famous practitioners included Ovid, Goethe, Thomas Hardy and Casanova. The practice of foot binding in China was a society-sanctioned form of foot fetishism.

By contrast the foot as an object of scientific scrutiny has tended to be neglected, the general impression being that though it is certainly a very useful appendage it is not nearly as interesting as, for example, the hand. Mr Helal finds the comparison invidious. The foot, he maintains, is much more sophisticated and complex, a biomechanical marvel that provides both stability and propulsion for the human frame.

Indeed, the human foot is the defining characteristic of Man, his hallmark, which by allowing him to stand upright freed the hands entirely from their weight-bearing function and thus initiated the long climb to civilisation.

The feature that distinguishes the human foot from that of any other animal is the longitudinal arch which separates out the twin functions of stability and propulsion. The stability comes from the outer part in a semicircle running from the heel to the fourth and fifth toes. This is the weight-bearing surface, and the cushioning of the muscles and ligaments along with the highly specialised structure of the heel fat pad act as a shock absorber capable of sustaining the downward force of the human body that is measured in kilotonnes?

The remaining part of the foot focused on the big toe acts as a lever, "an elastic, mobile dynamic organ of propulsion". As is so often the case, it is only when some part of the body goes wrong that its true worth can be appreciated.

The big toe is susceptible to the condition hallux rigidus where there is a limitation of movement in relation to the rest of the foot.

While walking, the stiffness of the toe puts pressure on the surrounding muscles and ligaments, which then become inflamed and very painful indeed. Mobility is obviously severely restricted and, unless adequately and promptly treated, chronic arthritic changes follow which require surgery to correct them.

The renewed interest in the foot in recent years has been fuelled by two developments. The first is the popularity of jogging and the punishing training regimes of professional athletes. The foot is now exposed to forces that even its resilient structure is unable to sustain.

The long-distance runner, for example, hits the ground with his heel with a force three to four times his body weight, 800 times for every mile that is covered.

Joggers get stress fractures of the small bones in the foot, longjumpers shear the fatty pad off the heel, footballers develop hallux rigidus from repetitively stubbing the toe on the ball, basketball players traumatise the small sesamoid bones under the sole of the foot and so on — the possibilities for injury are enormous.

It can be impossible to diagnose these problems without specialist knowledge of the anatomy of the foot and their management may be very difficult — not least because the victims too frequently want to get back to a training circuit as quickly as possible to repeat the traumatic manoeuvres that were responsible for their symptoms in the first place.

The second impetus to scientific interest in the foot arises from the expectation nowadays that the variety of congenital defects with which a child may be born can be corrected surgically. According to Mr John Fixsen, consultant orthopaedic surgeon at Great Ormond Street Hospital, London: "Children referred to orthopaedic clinics with foot problems or parental anxiety about the condition of a child's feet exceed all other referrals — it is extremely common."

He adds, significantly: "It is, however, impossible to give advice unless there is a clear understanding of the natural history and development of the foot in childhood."

Many of the children referred for a specialist opinion have nothing wrong with their feet, or nothing that requires treatment, and it is a considerable challenge to identify these and thus avoid unnecessary surgical intervention.

This is well illustrated by the problem of flat feet which Mr Fixsen divides into two main categories. The first and largest group have no symptoms and the feet are fully mobile. These require no treatment, but he says: "The position must be carefully explained to often anxious parents that their children's feet are basically normal." However, where the feet are either painful or stiff, or where there is some demonstrable bony or muscular abnormality, then a careful and thorough examination is essential to allow a definitive diagnosis to be made and corrective treatment undertaken.

Mr Helal draws a teasing analogy between the Cinderella story and the changing role of the foot in orthopaedic practice. For many years it has been misunderstood and neglected, certainly compared to the other joints of the lower limb — the hip and the knee.

In recent years, however, the foot has met its Prince Charming in the form of a small group of orthopaedic enthusiasts whose detailed study of its mechanics have revealed it to be an appendage of complex and subtle beauty.

A widow's message that is saving lives

Patients who have had their spleens removed need a vital treatment, says **Dr Trisha Greenhalgh**

When interviewed after seeing a doctor, the average patient can recall only one piece of information. This is hardly surprising because medical consultations usually take place in surroundings seemingly designed to thwart good communication — a ten-minute appointment with a busy GP, a noisy outpatient clinic with only a curtain for privacy or a ward round with a dozen white-coated strangers crowded around the patient's bed. Communication skills are now a central part of the curriculum in most medical schools, but tragedies still result when an important message is either not imparted to the patient or is misinterpreted, misunderstood or dismissed as not personally relevant.

Penny Boyer became a widow in May 1992 when her husband, Miles, a healthy 34-year-old father of two, developed pneumococcal septicaemia (a form of blood poisoning). Mr Boyer had lost his spleen, an important immune defence organ, in a road accident ten years earlier but was unaware of the need to take penicillin protection against pneumococcal infection and had never received the pneumococcal vaccine.

Doctors argue whether patients without spleens should take penicillin every day for the rest of their lives or only during periods of illness such as sore throats or flu, but the lifesaving potential of both penicillin and pneumococcal vaccine in these patients is universally accepted.

Mrs Boyer channelled her grief into a large-scale campaign to educate the public and to mailshot every general practitioner in England with a protocol card for managing splenectomy patients. By personally recruiting some prominent doctors, she managed even to get the *British Medical Journal* to devote almost a whole issue to her cause. Last January, Mr Boyer's story was reported in the national press and was read by another fit man in his thirties who had also lost his spleen in an earlier accident.



Mrs Boyer: campaigner

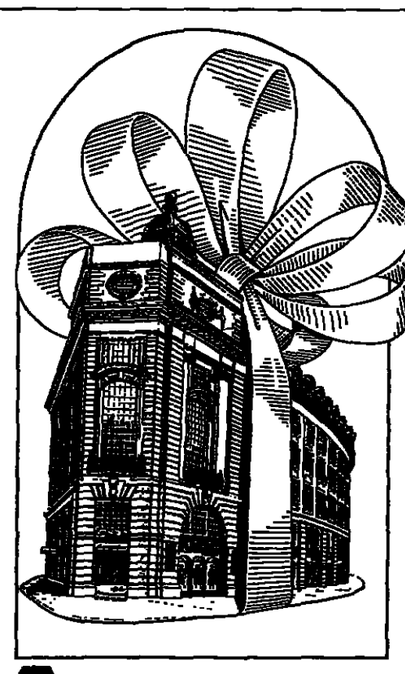
John Simmonds (not his real name) discussed the article with his wife and commented: "Oh, that will never happen to me but if my GP sends for me I might go along." Eight months later, John Simmonds was dead — from pneumococcal septicaemia.

The story illustrates not just how an estimated 50,000 apparently healthy men and women, many of them young and active, are at risk of dying from an illness which is both preventable and curable. It also illustrates an important principle of health education — that young people who consider themselves fit may, consciously or subconsciously, reject a piece of medical information even when it conveys an important, relevant and unambiguous message about their own illness or the risk of illness.

We will never know whether Miles Boyer or John Simmonds had ever been told to keep taking penicillin, and if they had, that it could be a matter of life or death. Perhaps the doctors who removed their spleens, or who saw them for subsequent checkups, were unaware of the danger. Neither man had been vaccinated against pneumococcus. Apparently, nobody had told either of them to attend hospital urgently if they experienced the early symptoms of pneumococcal infection, or even what those symptoms might be. Perhaps the words were said — but if they were, it seems nobody checked that they had sunk in.

It appears to be a driving principle in the new National Health Service that patients deserve and should be given more information about their illness, more involvement in medical decision-making, and more control over their own health. But lip service to these ideological principles is of little use if the doctors themselves have dangerously large cavities in their medical knowledge or if they assume that all the information they impart to patients will automatically be understood, acknowledged and acted upon.

● *Patients without a spleen who want more information on preventing pneumococcal infection should contact their general practitioner or the Splenectomy Trust, c/o Dr Dick Mayon-White, Oxfordshire Health Authority, Manor House, Headington, Oxford. Doctors may obtain copies of the splenectomy protocol card from Mrs Penny Boyer, c/o the Post Office, Swinbrooke, Oxfordshire.*



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Berlusconi's hour of reckoning

John Phillips says media concentration is compromising Italy's democratic process

Italy is in desperate need of government, but Silvio Berlusconi, the media tycoon, has shown himself incapable of governing. What is frightening is that despite all his shortcomings, Italians may yet re-elect the smiling *Cavaliere* to the Palazzo Chigi within weeks, because of his grip on the media.

Signor Berlusconi captured the imagination of conservatives throughout Europe when he won a dazzling victory in the March election. What was not clear outside Italy was the extent to which he had deployed his virtual monopoly over private television in flagrant abuse of electoral rules during his campaign. Within three months, Forza Italia had grown from nothing into the largest party, denying the former communist Democratic Party of the Left what had been considered an almost certain victory.

The new Prime Minister succeeded in persuading Italians — especially young, first-time voters — that Forza Italia was an exciting new phenomenon for change. It seemed to matter little that many of his acolytes were former protéges of Bettino Craxi, the Socialist former Prime Minister, who fled to Tunisia to escape trial on corruption charges, or of Giulio Andreotti, the former Christian Democrat leader suspected of acting as the guarantor of the Mafia in Rome. Nor that others had been, like himself, members of the illegal Propaganda Due masonic lodge, which magistrates decided was a threat to an open democratic system. Only a few of Berlusconi's disciples, such as Antonio Martino, the Foreign Minister, were genuine free-market idealists. For his part, Gianfranco Fini, the tycoon's ally in the "post-Fascist" National Alliance, lauded Benito Mussolini as the "greatest statesman of the century", but showed a political finesse which Signor Berlusconi will never achieve.

During his campaign, Berlusconi the impresario promised two million new jobs and an end to corruption, but he then appointed a boardroom cabinet including several executives from his Fininvest empire. They had no experience of statecraft, but every intention of promoting company interests.

Italy's most urgent problem is the real danger of national bankruptcy from accumulated profligate public spending. Instead of addressing this, Signor Berlusconi dedicated his first months in office to taking control of the RAI public broadcasting corporation, demanding that it become a pro-Government organ.

At the same time, he insisted on retaining control of his three private television channels. This meant he was all but overseeing all Italian broadcasting. On Monday Italians were alarmed when he abused this monopoly to broadcast an appeal on RAI for mass street-protests in support of his crumbling administration.

During his seven months in power, Signor Berlusconi and his Justice Minister, Alfredo Biondi, have also expended much energy in seeking to undermine the authority of the brave Milan magistrates who launched Italy's *dolce rivoluzione*. Last summer, Signor Biondi proposed a decree law ending pre-trial detention for corruption suspects, but the Government abandoned the scheme in the ensuing public furore.

Political life thereafter was dominated by a duel between Signor Berlusconi and Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the folk hero who launched the "Clean Hands" anti-graft crackdown, until the magistrate resigned, in mysterious circumstances, two weeks ago.

The Prime Minister's battle with the judiciary has become a struggle for survival. The Government began to look ridiculous when Judge Di Pietro placed him under investigation as the head of government presided over a conference on organised crime. Signor Berlusconi then underwent lengthy interrogation by the Milan magistrates. He has sworn his innocence on the lives of his five children. But he stretched credibility by claiming he was unaware of bribes paid by his brother Paolo to tax inspectors investigating Fininvest.

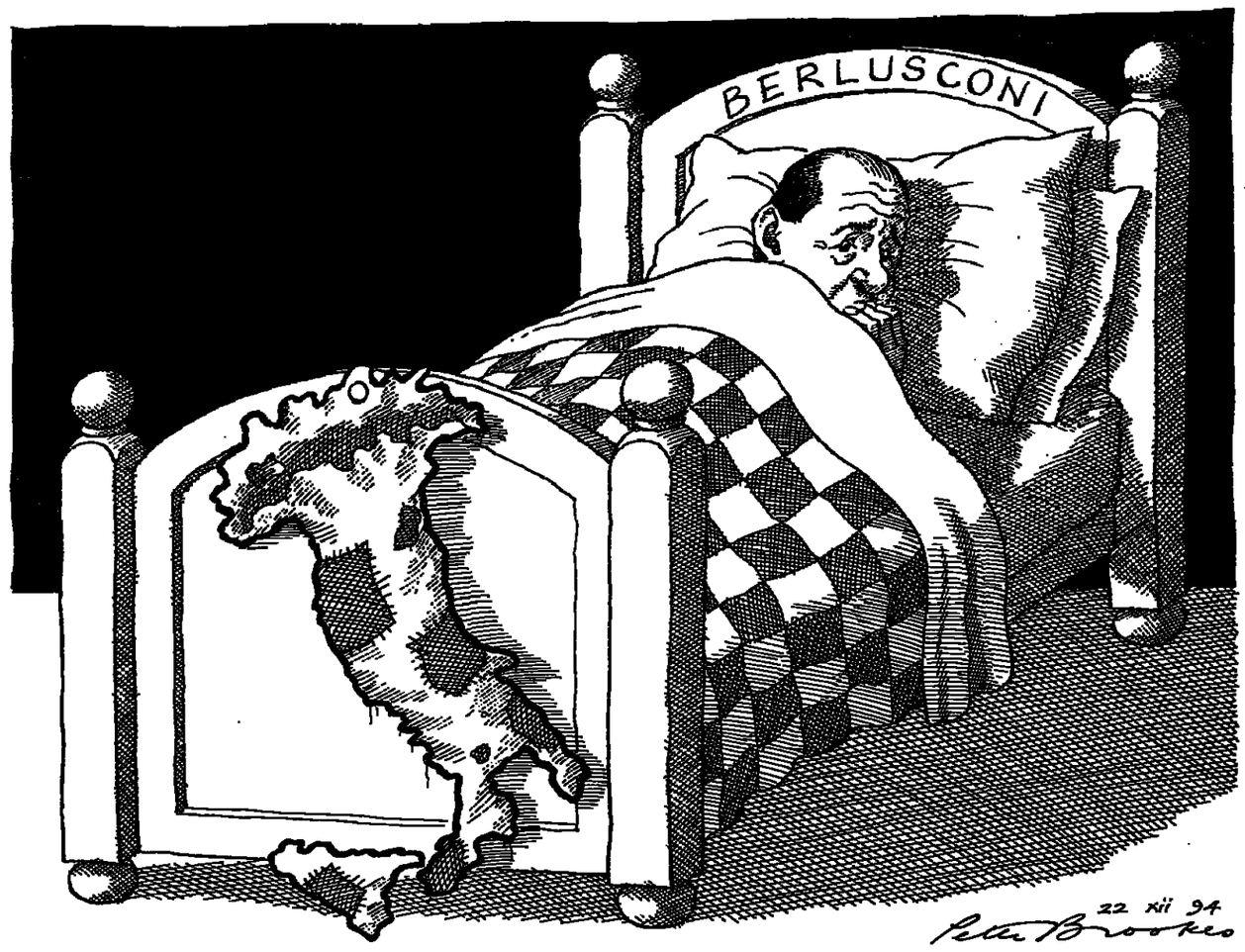
> The great danger for Italy now is national bankruptcy

Then, last month, as the Prime Minister's judicial woes worsened, the Government was trounced in local elections. Now Signor Berlusconi has been abandoned by his uneasy ally, the vituperative Northern League leader Umberto Bossi, who wants to form a broad-based government together with the Democratic Party of the Left and the centrist Italian Popular Party.

Yesterday, Signor Berlusconi told Parliament that forming a new coalition without an early election would betray the constitutional principle of popular sovereignty.

President Scalfaro is known to hope that a "presidential government" can be forged from across the political spectrum to carry out the institutional reforms needed to complete Italy's transition to a Second Republic. Signor Berlusconi, however, wants an immediate election that he and Signor Fini may be able to win with an enhanced majority thanks to his unfettered television power and the growing popularity of the National Alliance leader.

Italians should not be denied the right to judge Signor Berlusconi in a new election. The Prime Minister deserves justice. But the *videocrazia* — his Big Brother-like control of what is beamed into Italian homes — must be curbed before his record is put to the vote, if Italy is to remain a credible democracy.



Too many promises

Labour has committed itself to a host of constitutional changes which would leave it precious little time to govern

William Rees-Mogg

Good government depends on vigorous opposition; good opposition depends on vigorous government. In recent weeks, the Conservatives have been so busy with their own problems — made worse by the Dudley defeat — that they have not been able to test the Labour Party. Yet some recent developments have been damaging to Labour, and one major aspect of Labour strategy is badly flawed.

In international terms, the Labour Party is beginning to look very isolated. When he became leader, Tony Blair was understandably impressed by the Democrats in the United States. He had observed the success of Bill Clinton's presidential campaign, and adopted some of Clinton's arguments. The Democrats see the British Labour Party as their blood brothers, an association strengthened by the imprudent help given by British Tories to the Bush campaign.

Now the overwhelming Republican victory in the mid-term elections has left Bill Clinton as a lame duck if not a dead one; he has lost control of both houses of Congress, and the Whitewater investigations and indictments are turning up evidence that could well force him to resign. Some Washington insiders think he will be gone by next July, though senior Republicans, such as Senator Robert Dole, would prefer a more leisurely process of disintegration, "twisting slowly, slowly in the wind". In either case, Bill Clinton has already turned from being a Labour asset to a big potential liability.

Jacques Delors is planning to retire. He is the only continental European socialist of whom the British are conscious. His federalist policies destroyed Margaret Thatcher in 1990, and have split the Conservative Party. He seemed to be the only socialist candidate with a fair chance of being elected president of France next year — though I suspect even he might have been defeated by France's right-wing political mood. If he had been elected, the 1996 inter-governmental conference would have seen a Franco-German initiative which would have created new difficulties for John Major. By the end of 1995, Tony Blair could well be the only strong political leader of the Left in the larger European countries, and even he will still be in opposition.

Tony Blair could do nothing to stop M Delors retiring. Yet the strategy he inherited from John Smith seems legalistic rather than popular. The Labour Party has invested a large part of its political capital in constitutional issues which have little practical appeal to the electorate, but which would take up most of the time of a future Labour parliament.

In the 1929 election, my mother attended her first political meeting in Britain. She was used to the more vigorous appeals of American politics, and was surprised, and more than a little bored, to hear the Conservative candidate address the people of the village of Temple Cloud in Somerset on the reform of the Upper Chamber. He lost the election. Reform of the House of Lords butters no parsnips, and it is the promise of buttered parsnips that wins elections.

Under John Smith, the Labour Party fell into the hands of the lawyers, and I am not sure it has escaped them yet. Lawyers love proposals for constitutional reform, just as they love statutes, wigs, fees, amendments on third reading, writs of mandamus, interlocutory appeals and the case of the Dean of St Asaph. These are their toys, just as conkers, marbles and Power Rangers are the toys of little boys. But the public is not half as interested in these matters as the lawyers are, and is much more concerned about health, education, taxes, pensions, defence, police and the other practical issues.

The exaggerated commitment of the Labour Party to so many simultaneous constitutional reforms must be a weakness, if only because it distracts public attention from issues on which Labour is well ahead. When one puts the various proposals together, one can see how ambitious the programme is.

Scotland: A Labour government will create a Scottish parliament with significant fiscal powers, and powers to enact Scottish law.

Wales: A Labour government will create a Welsh assembly. This assembly will have narrower powers than the Scottish parliament. It will not have fiscal powers, nor will it be allowed to create a separate body of Welsh law.

The House of Lords: A Labour government will remove the right of hereditary peers to vote in the House of Lords, leaving only the life peers with voting rights. Further reform of the House of Lords is proposed as part of a more general reform of the electoral system.

These measures are all supposed to be enacted in the first year of the new parliament, subject to the size of the Labour majority and support from other parties. It is expected that there would be broad Liberal support for these reforms in the event of a hung parliament.

Regional government: Consultative papers will shortly be published by the Labour Policy Commission on Democracy. The powers of regional assemblies would be similar to those of the Welsh assembly, and significantly less than those of the Scottish parliament. They would not have fiscal or law-making powers.

London: A new strategic authority for London will be established at an early date. It would presumably have powers similar to those of the regional assemblies.

Northern Ireland: Formally, Labour remains committed to "the unity of Ireland by consent". However, this has largely been superseded by the Anglo-Irish declaration and the peace process, to which the Labour Party is committed. "Consent" is now taken to require separate majorities in the North and South.

Europe: The Labour Party is in favour of giving the European Parliament greater powers to supervise the European Commission, but is not in favour of adding to the power of the parliament at the expense of the Council of Ministers.

Electoral reform: A Labour government would establish a commission to consider and make recommendations on electoral reform. The Labour Party is in favour of a directly elected second chamber to replace the chamber of life peers. This would be created in the first year of the new parliament. There is considerable support for proportional representation for such a chamber.

Referendums: The Labour Party is committed to a referendum on electoral reform, but not as yet on any other constitutional issue. If major European constitutional changes, including a single currency, emerge from the inter-governmental conference of 1996, the Labour Party would support a referendum. In other areas referendums are not excluded, but are improbable.

Bill of rights: The Labour Party is committed in principle to a bill of rights. However, this would be taken in two stages. The first stage would be to incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights into British law. The second stage would be to revise the result of this enactment, and add provisions to fill any gaps.

The monarchy: Labour is committed to restricting the use of the royal prerogative. However, as these powers are all exercised by the government and not by the monarch, this would be a reduction in practice of the powers of the Prime Minister, not of the Queen. The policy commission on democracy is considering proposals to slim down the monarchy, according to a Scandinavian model. These have the support of Jack Straw, who jointly chairs the commission, but are not yet party policy.

So here are 11 areas of constitutional reform, each of which is open to endless debate, at a general election, in Parliament, in the courts. Some of the reforms would be popular, some not, but all will tend to distract attention from the Labour Party's other policies, which matter far more to the public. They could also give Labour a cranky image. There are certainly too many proposals: not just a Pandora's box, but 11 Pandora's boxes, each with its own booby-trap inside. Worst of all, these proposals would take up almost all the time of the next parliament, if Labour were elected, in hair-splitting arguments which would delight the lawyers, bore the public, and split the party.

The Right path to defeat

Julian Critchley on the upstart Tory rebels

Members of Parliament on the Conservative Right, whether they take the Tory whip or not, seem determined to rock John Major's boat until it sinks. Clamour for a referendum has even reached the Cabinet. "Mother Teresa" Gorman, who has cast herself in the role of La Pasionaria of the Right, is to introduce a private member's Bill in favour of a referendum, while Lord McAlpine, courtier, antiques dealer and jobbing builder, has described Jeremy Hanley, the party's new chairman as "a pantaloon" and "totally useless": an opinion expressed while en route to Venice, where he is to spend the season of goodwill with Lady Thatcher. What has got into us?

Our televisions are overflowing with Tory MPs to whom not so long ago few would have given the time of day: Bill Cash, Tony Marlow, James Cran, Christopher Gill and the Wintertons, all of whom we see cheerfully stirring the pot of disaffection. Does the Conservative Right want to lose the next election so as to be able to claim "I told you so" from the seats below the gangway on the Opposition benches? It sounds like it.

David Maxwell Fyfe once claimed that loyalty was the party's secret weapon. How wrong he was. When I was first elected, Harold Macmillan was the target of the disaffected, who were led by Henry Kerby, Enoch Powell and Nigel Birch. "The fella's pink," I was told at lunch and dinner. "Boothby's got his wife and Attlee said that he would, one day, lead the Labour Party..."

Macmillan had secretly asked the intelligence community, early in 1960, for a paper about Britain's relations with friend and foe ten years hence. He never circulated the document, but its conclusions prompted him to take his Government out of Africa and into Europe. He was obliged to preside, as were his successors, over a period of national decline.

Ted Heath took us into the EEC, but was ditched by the party's Right (could we really have taken Edward du Cann seriously?); then Keith Joseph became the new Messiah for a moment at least (until he made a daft speech blaming working-class mothers for bearing stupid kids), only to be succeeded by Margaret Thatcher. She retained the loyalty of the bulk of the party for ten years, until defenestrated by a coalition of Tories. She was brought down by her arrogance and her views.

Faced with a choice between Michael Heseltine and Douglas Hurd, the Thatcherite Right invented John Major, though he was on record as saying that his favourite Tory was Iain Macleod. Since the 1992 election victory (which under Margaret we would not have had), the hard Right has become increasingly disenchanted with Major, while unable to find a leader itself.

Michael Portillo, Peter Lilley, John Redwood, and most important of all Jonathan Aitken are locked into the Cabinet, and backbench right-wingers are consequently running around in circles like headless chickens. Sir George Gardiner, the chairman of the 1992 Committee, is one of nature's conspirators, and looks the part, which could account for his lack of success. Sir Marcus Fox has been brought to heel, while newcomers like Alan Duncan and Bernard Jenkin as yet have no real weight.

A referendum on Europe is the antis' latest wheeze, and I trust Mr Major will not fall for so foolishly self-defeating an exercise. Wilson held a referendum because he was certain of winning. That should not be permitted to set a precedent. A common currency is not a "constitutional matter", and we are not a plebiscitary democracy of the kind favoured by Hitler and Mussolini. We will hear less of referendums once the Government regains its popularity. The next election should follow upon the European negotiations of 1996, and the electorate will have the chance to vote for or against its proposals in the normal manner.

I have always found the Tory Right to be more unscrupulous than the party's Left. By "Right" I mean the hard Right, which has little or nothing in common with the traditional knights of the shire, for whom party loyalty has always been of paramount importance. Most of them are politically unemployable, and they tend to ally themselves with discharged Cabinet ministers like Norman Lamont, whose grievances they exploit as if they were their own. In times of trouble, the media latch on to them, so that their faces become as familiar as their arguments.

The Tory party responds to leadership, and for leadership it looks towards the Prime Minister. John Major's style is a vivid contrast to that of his predecessor. Many of the difficulties that he has inherited stem from her period of office. He was right to withdraw the whip from the nefarious nine, whatever the cost to his majority. What he must not do is to try to buy them off with promises of referendums. That would be the negation of leadership, and a signal that the days of his Government could be numbered.

Julian Critchley is the Conservative MP for Aldershot.

Shop talk

LORD ROMSEY, Prince Charles's cousin and close friend, will repair for Christmas to Broadlands to lick his wounds. After a decade of trench warfare with local shopkeepers, he has lost a campaign to build a Tesco superstore on his Hampshire estate.

Romsey first outlined his plans for the store in 1985. He has since put forward two detailed proposals to local planners, only to have them rejected. This week the Environment Secretary, John Gummer, dismissed an appeal against the planners' most recent decision, and local shopowners now believe Romsey has finally conceded defeat.

The financial consequences for Romsey are serious. Tesco would have paid him £2 million to build the superstore on his land, cash he claims he needs for repairs to the estate, which costs £500,000 a year to maintain. He recently sold £2.6 million of family heirlooms.

An estate office spokesman says that Romsey has no comment to make on the decision. However, members of the Romsey Chamber of Commerce are delighted. "We weren't expecting a decision before Christmas, so it is the best present our members could have hoped for," says Gail Foster. "The store would have been on the edge of the town and sucked away the trade from the centre. I am sure Lord Romsey has other options."

Blessed Mop

JOHN MAJOR entertained lobby journalists to drinks in Downing Street on Tuesday night. His predecessor as Prime Minister, meanwhile, hosted a far jollier affair for 100 friends at her Chesham Place offices. Messrs Aitken, Portillo and Lilley were only to be expected, but a surprising guest at Thatcher's bash was Major's Chief Whip, Richard Ryder. It was of course Ryder who took the government whip away from rebellious MPs this month. He nevertheless lived it up among the Euro-sceptics on Thatcher's night, and went so far as to invite many to visit him in the new year to discuss their differences.

The event was so enjoyed by the baroness that her husband struggled to drag her away. "Come on MOP! We really must go," he exclaimed repeatedly. I am told that the acronym stands for "mother of the people".



● *Plumbers may not be able to meet their deadlines, but journalists do. The insurance newspaper* Lloyd's List *produced a colourful supplement yesterday lauding the success of the QE2's refit.*

Beefed up

PICCADILLY was ablaze with rumours yesterday of another Hollywood-style hamburger bar. The muscle-bound filmstar Arnold Schwarzenegger was spotted putting his head around the door of the former Conservative Club in St James's Street. Schwarzenegger, who is behind one Piccadilly fast food outlet — Planet Hollywood — was his usual monosyllabic self when pressed on his interest in the property, which is available for lease at £950,000 a year. "The key point," he said, "is to make sure that my limos can be housed."

Cheerless

VIRGINIA BOTTOMLEY'S frugal regimen for the nation's eating habits has been taken to heart by officials at the Department of Health. They have sent out a Christmas card extolling the virtues of under-indulgence.

Taking recipients through the suitable menus for the 12 days of Christmas, the card suggests "three spuds the size of an egg" on the first day, "two slices lean meat" on the second day and "steamed white fish" on the third.

These are followed variously by "no bloody chips", "one glass of skimmed milk" and "a big heap of cabbage". I am assured that Bottomley has received a card too. She would do well to heed the advice it contains, as she recently admitted to roasting a turkey with plastic-covered giblets inside.

Coining it

LLOYD'S losses may have set him back a little, but things are looking up for Michael Colvin, Tory MP for Romsey and Waterside. A treasure hunter has unearthed a hoard of Celtic coins on Colvin's land at Tangley, on the Hampshire/Wiltshire border.

The 96 coins, dating from between 75 and 50 BC, have been valued at £10,000 and declared treasure trove by the the Wiltshire Coroner, David Masters. Colvin qualifies for half the cash.

Plain cooking

CIGAR IN HAND, Lord Grade brushed aside spice-filled dishes at supper the other night. The fact that he was sitting in an Indian restaurant in Mayfair, and that he was enjoying a dinner to celebrate its opening, was immaterial.

"No spices, thank you," he advised his waiter at the Tamarind, an upmarket establishment where designer saris and terracotta-coloured walls have taken over from flock wallpaper. "I have eaten in all four corners of the world, and I always have plain grilled chicken. There's no reason to change that habit now."



Chicken makes the Grade

While fellow guests such as Ghislaine Maxwell, Dave Allen and Terry O'Neill tucked into sizzling spices, the entertainments mogul would having none of it. "No salad or vegetables," he said. "Just plain grilled chicken."

P·H·S

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هكذا من الأصل

BERLUSCONI AT BAY

Italy's politicians have again betrayed the voters

Italy's 53rd postwar Government is ending with an exceptionally vivid and public deathbed drama. Silvio Berlusconi, the embattled Prime Minister, is in no mood to bow to men in grey suits. Demanding fresh elections should the Government be defeated, he vowed yesterday to sit out a televised parliamentary no-confidence debate which could drag on until tomorrow, before deciding whether to resign.

The spectacle will not be edifying. Umberto Bossi, who sounded the governing coalition's death-knell when he decided to pull out, has set the tone, denouncing the members of his Northern League party who refuse to vote with the Opposition as "opportunistic pigs and lice". Italy is back to the rancid politicking which Signor Berlusconi was elected only last March to end.

For this shipwreck of the voters' hopes, Signor Berlusconi is himself largely responsible. His ideas were not just a brilliant packaging of empty slogans: Forza Italia's pledge to reinvent the corporatist Italian State, clean out its bureaucracy and overhaul its chaotic public finances struck the right note for Italy. But it was always going to be difficult to forge an effective team from the political neophytes in his uneasy coalition. His personal authority was all-important. Not only does he not seem to have understood that success required his integrity to be beyond question: he rapidly turned on the judicial forces who should have been his allies in the task of renewal.

Innocent or guilty, the Prime Minister has become tangled in the webs of Italy's corrupt past he was pledged to break. His humiliating seven-hour grilling earlier this month by Milan's "clean hands" team of magistrates would have been damaging in any circumstances. But his earlier failures of judgment, both personal and political, had already placed him in the dock of public opinion.

First, he failed to put a convincing distance between himself and his Fininvest business empire. This was an elementary and indispensable step. Even without the judicial investigations into its affairs, it was imperative to clear suspicions that he would use his office to the benefit of the three commercial television stations he owned or vice versa. When, in addition, he placed his supporters in charge of the state-owned channels, this lent credence to charges that he viewed the State itself as company property. To these media channels he resorted on Monday, appealing to Italians to take to the streets in protest should he lose in parliament. The more embattled he has become, the less of a democrat he has seemed.

Nothing but this Government's demise is now certain. President Scalfaro, who assumes the role of constitutional referee in the political scrum that will follow, is at loggerheads with the Prime Minister over the question of whether to call fresh elections, as indeed he is over every important issue of state policy. Signor Berlusconi argues, with some justification, that a marriage of convenience between the Northern League and the parties of the centre and Left, which lost heavily in last March's elections, would be a betrayal of the voters' clearly delivered mandate to the political Right.

Against that, President Scalfaro must set the damage that three months of continued political uncertainty would inflict, should elections be called. By taking to the streets this autumn and forcing the deferral of welfare reforms, Italy's unions have ensured that the country's public finances are in no state to stand prolonged strain. It may be too soon to see in this crisis, as *La Stampa* did this week, "the breaking point where the confused state of democracy could precipitate a collapse of the entire system". Italy is in many ways transformed. The magistrates have stripped much of the old corruption out of the "system". Politically, the country has been here before and muddled through. But the real betrayal of Italy's voters is, precisely, that it has been here before.

A PEOPLE'S FOREIGN POLICY

The Foreign Office door is inching open

As we report today, Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, wants to let a chink of light into the formation of foreign policy. He is busy drawing up policy papers on Britain's place in the post-Cold War world, and next spring, he will put them to the test at a one-day conference in London. For a Government that seems incapable of lifting its eyes beyond the next parliamentary vote, it is refreshing to see one politician raising his gaze to the horizon.

The prospect of retirement, of course, does wonders for a Cabinet minister's perspective. Mr Hurd has spent five years as Foreign Secretary and would like to leave a legacy, both to history and to his successor. He will doubtless want to be remembered as the man who helped to arrest Britain's decline and who managed the transition from the certainties of the Cold War to the more fluid world of the peace.

The Foreign Secretary seems to have an optimistic vision for Britain. He sees opportunities for this country to exploit both its language and its military expertise abroad. The conference in late February will be a joint effort with Chatham House, but it will also include the British Council, the BBC World Service and the Armed Services. The intention is to show that the Foreign Office is not alone in selling Britain's merits and services in other countries. The FCO claims to be pressed for cash; yet taxpayers constantly question whether diplomats need to live in quite such a grand style. The conference will be seeking to persuade both the Treasury and ordinary people that the money it spends is for a good cause — and that more cash would be gratefully received and well used.

The most interesting aspect of the conference, though, is that it is happening at all. Foreign policy used to be made by a small diplomatic coterie and articulated by the Foreign Secretary. Occasionally Cabinet colleagues, and of course the Prime Minister, could adjust it, but outsiders could do little more than complain. This gathering will be an opportunity for businessmen, academics, journalists and Opposition MPs to influence debate at a formative stage; a welcome move in the direction of openness.

It is perhaps no coincidence, then, that Mr Hurd is one of the Cabinet's strongest supporters of a referendum on Europe. He has been in politics long enough to recognise the stirrings that were occasioned by Maastricht. He has seen how disillusioned voters have become with their politicians, and how much better informed they are about what used to be thought arcane questions suitable only for mandarins. He realises that the notion that a single currency could be introduced in this country without public consent is now unthinkable.

There are still ministers in the Cabinet who believe that monetary union or further European integration could be pushed through the Commons without a referendum. But they are increasingly outnumbered. The Prime Minister's instinct is to offer a referendum and he is backed by the majority of his colleagues. He is opposed, however, by two of the most powerful men in the Cabinet: Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine. This decision could prove a true test of leadership. If a Prime Minister cannot overrule two of his colleagues when they are in a minority, then he cannot be said to have authority over his Cabinet.

THE MODERN CINDERELLA

An Atlantic cruise is no fairy-tale

Not to be invited to the ball is an old grief: the theme has supplied the plot for fairy-tales and opera, film and pantomime for centuries. But even more vexing than the vexation of not receiving an invitation is the let-down of getting dressed up in one's ballgown and then jilted at the last minute.

Poor Cinderella never expected an invitation: so she never complained. But after her fairy godmother had transformed her expectations, and then her rags into a glittering ballgown (with tiara in the best productions), if her ratlike coachman had lost his way to the palace and dropped her in the mud to hitch-hike home, even Cinderella's gentle nature might have been provoked. She could reasonably have revised the script by saying something unladylike.

So pity Professor Christine Hall who has just been dumped in the sludge. Compared with the normal sweep of Cinderellas, Professor Hall is a self-confident modern woman. She is the American law professor who won a $9,000 ticket for a cruise on the *QE2* in the grand draw at the Fort Lauderdale Opera Ball. Accordingly, she went out and bought extravagant ballgowns for wear on the cruise. And now she finds that a shell suit would be more practical on this voyage away from fairyland. She cannot wear the gowns for fear of tearing them on the jagged edges left by the workmen. She cannot even put on her dancing slippers because her carpet is soaking ankle-deep. And whenever she flushes the lavatory, the fountains that fly up are aimed at the Ugly Sisters in only the coarsest pantomimes.

Professor Hall, who needs no fairy godmother to wave a wand over her rights and interests, is organising fellow passengers to launch a joint action. "In America you can sue for anything," she declares with a more aggressive line than is usually given to Cinderella. And she is making up for her disappointment by the glamorous studio portraits of her in her evening finery which we published yesterday.

Even the name of ballgown has become as exclusive as cruises were once puffed to be by the brochures. Gowns may still be worn at Commemoration and May balls at the older universities, with wraps for the shoulders and ball programmes out of Jane Austen as accessories. They are still fashionable at the Highland balls, as much for underskirt heating as for display, and at the grander English hunt balls. For all other dancing purposes, a short evening dress does, and a ballgown has become as exotic a costume as white tie and tails for men.

To be robbed of such a glass slipper and the rest of the romance, as the overture strikes up and the ship sails must be a wicked disappointment. No old-fashioned fairy-tale would dream of having such an ending. But the story of Professor Hall's ballgown is a moral tale for the modern world. Cinderella can stick up for herself.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Mood of hope in Northern Ireland

From the Duke of Abercorn

Sir, As Northern Ireland prepares for Christmas, the mood in the Province is very different to the past 25 years. It is one of real hope, optimism and emerging confidence that the peace process, however tenuous — it might be described as still in the intensive care stage — could indeed be established on a permanent basis in 1995.

I firmly believe that there are two key factors that have achieved this situation.

Firstly, the remarkable resilience of the Northern Ireland people, regardless of cultural background, who have withstood 25 years of the cruellest violence imaginable, protected by the most dedicated and professional of security forces in the world.

Secondly, Northern Ireland is extremely fortunate in the Prime Minister, who has the clear confidence of the great majority in the Province regardless of political persuasion, in his focused determination to ensure that peace will be permanent.

Moreoever, he has demonstrated time and again remarkable perception and sensitivity, combined with real leadership and energy, to this challenge. For the peace process cannot be rushed, but must proceed on a gradual and conditional basis.

The significant success of the International Investment Forum held in Belfast last week, initiated and chaired by the Prime Minister (feature, December 12; reports, December 14, 15), demonstrated to the business community, and indeed the unemployed, that Northern Ireland is no longer isolated from the prospects of attracting new investment, thus employment, from the outside world, which would indeed assist the peace process immeasurably.

Therefore, your readers should be aware that there is indeed a part of the United Kingdom, which has suffered for so long, where the people across the so-called political divide are deeply appreciative of the endeavours and real concern of the Prime Minister.

Yours faithfully,
ABERCORN,
Barons Court, Omagh, Co Tyrone.
December 19.

Tory unity

From Mr J. M. Reid

Sir, Your leader of today on the Woodcock report on prisons — "The scale of mismanagement uncovered ... was too extensive and too profound to be a matter of mere 'indiscipline' at lower levels" — applies equally well to the performance of the Government in almost every department.

John Major and his ministers do not accept this, or that they are culpably out of touch with their Conservative constituents. Therefore a crushing electoral defeat is waiting to happen.

Yours truly,
J. M. REID,
7 Bradbourne Street, SW6.
December 20.

From Mr Stephen Garvin

Sir, The letter today from Mr Patrick Cormack, MP, about the loss of the Conservative seat at Dudley exudes defeatism. It is a near-perfect example of the attitude of mind which, if it prevails, will lead to Conservative defeat at the general election when it comes. The Conservative Party does not want to return to Butskellism. It needs leadership.

When it gets it it does not like it, but had it not been for Disraeli, Churchill and Thatcher it would have disappeared by now. Voters want those who solicit their votes to talk of realities. Mr Cormack's soft "middle ground" is the path to electoral extinction.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN GARVIN,
Little Bricklehurst,
Stonegate, Wadhurst, East Sussex.
December 20.

From Mr Christopher W. Clayton

Sir, Mr T. M. Harrington criticises the rebel Tory MPs because "they were elected by voters who wanted a Conservative Government" (letter, December 17).

Many voters supported Conservative candidates because John Major assured them that he had no plans to extend the scope of VAT. To my mind it is the rebels on the domestic fuel vote, not the whipped lobby fodder, who are upholding the basis on which they were elected.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER W. CLAYTON,
Orchard Cottage, Brown Heath Road,
Waverton, Chester.
December 17.

From Mr William A. Croft

Sir, You report (December 20) an injunction from Deng Xiaoping which indicates that the Chinese have, in effect, seen the wisdom of the Thoughts of John Major:

If a party allows its members to air opinions freely and act as they wish, it is of course impossible for the party to achieve unity in thinking, to have fighting capabilities, and to smoothly carry out its tasks.

Yet this proved beyond understanding to some of the voters in Dudley.

Yours,
WILLIAM A. CROFT,
6 Butterworth Gardens,
Woodford Green, Essex.
December 20.

Racial discrimination in Britain

From Ms Pat White and the Reverend David Haslam

Sir, Both your leading article and report of December 12 on the visit of the UN Human Rights Commission special rapporteur on racial discrimination, Mr Maurice Glegle-Ahanhanzo, were tendentious and misleading.

The United Nations has been working on the elimination of racial discrimination for many years; there is an international convention on the subject which Britain has signed. It has to be monitored, why should we be exempt?

Discussions among those working on race issues at international level in the Churches have pointed to the need to challenge the racism that is both increasing within and spreading from the countries of Western Europe.

This reveals itself in various forms, including the kind of racist attacks you mention, the attitude to and treatment of those who are seeking refuge and asylum from conflict, and our involvement in an international financial system that continues hugely to benefit the (white) rich over the (black) poor.

You claim that "even human rights campaigners and black pressure groups are deeply sceptical" and "split" about the UN visit. However the first three critical quotations in your report all come from Conservative MPs, at least two of them not known as "equal rights campaigners".

Your report also quotes three black spokespersons. One, Claude Moraes, of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, is in favour of the UN visit. The second, Makbool Javaid, of the Society of Black Lawyers, is not against it but doubts the willingness of the UK Government to respond to a UN report. Bill Morris of the TGWU believes the UN is not needed to tell black people what they already know.

We believe that the rapporteur is coming to listen to black people rather than tell them, but in any case all this hardly mounts up to the "deep scepticism" you allege. We favour the visit because it offers an objective assessment of Britain's performance in relation to the convention.

Visit or no visit, we are all agreed on the need for a Government much more sensitive to the views of black people to bring about the necessary change.

Yours sincerely,
PAT WHITE (Deputy Moderator),
DAVID HASLAM (Secretary),
Churches Commission for Racial Justice,
Inter-Church House,
35-41 Lower Marsh, SE1.
December 15.

From Mr David Wardrop

Sir, You deserve full marks for notifying your readers that 1995 will, *inter alia*, mark the UN Year for Tolerance. What a shame, though, that in so doing, you betray some of the classic symptoms of xenophobia in fulminating against the regrettable disregard for diplomatic niceties shown by the UN's rapporteur (your term "special investigator" is surely over the top).

I hope this will not be your last word on such an important issue. A number of organisations are currently planning to form a broad-based UK committee which will co-ordinate a range of activities marking the UN Year for Tolerance.

There are many opportunities for improvement within our society. The committee will work with those confronting intolerance relating to sex, disability, age, belief, sexual preference and race. The press, both national and local, can play an important role in this work.

So, noting that 1995 has also been designated European Year against Xenophobia, Racism and Intolerance by the Council of Europe, why don't we let the UN rapporteur get on with his work and not get too fussed about it?

We have work of our own to do too.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID WARDROP
(Chairman),
London Regional Council,
United Nations Association,
23 New Quebec Street, W1.
December 13.

Public assets and private patients

From the Chief Executive of the Independent Healthcare Association

Sir, Margot Norman's article, "Are private hospitals doomed?" (December 16), was highly biased. Your readers are entitled to know, as background, what the author did not declare, that she is married to the chairman of the Chelsea and Westminster Healthcare NHS Trust.

Norman ignored the real point of the Independent Healthcare Association's press release. The decision to create private beds at the Chelsea and Westminster is fundamentally flawed, both in economic terms and in terms of public accountability for the use of public assets for private patient facilities.

This association's evidence to the Department of Health demonstrated that the Chelsea and Westminster's new "private unit" is not economically viable and to survive will be subsidised by public funds. The local and wider NHS community will also be denied the use of modern NHS facilities which were funded to satisfy NHS patient-care demands. The Public Accounts Committee themselves stated that 300 NHS capital projects (including 24 major ones) were cancelled to finance the development overspend of the Chelsea and Westminster.

It was made clear that the proposal to open the new unit also failed to demonstrate the demand for private patient facilities and did not take into account the existing supply of London private beds, either in NHS or independent hospitals.

Furthermore, the project proposal failed to explain how the Treasury requirement of a return of at least 8 per cent return on capital employed would be achieved on the millions of pounds of public money involved.

Our association represents the majority of the UK's important independent healthcare providers. Far from being "doomed", Britain's genuine independent sector makes a massive contribution to the health of the nation. Without it, Government expenditure on the NHS would have to increase by at least 20 per cent; it must be remembered that 450,000 people work in the independent sector.

Yours sincerely,
BARRY HASSELL, Chief Executive,
Independent Healthcare Association,
22 Little Russell Street, WC1.
December 21.

Threat to listed house

From the Chairman of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings

Sir, We wish to argue a stay of execution for a medieval house in Caernarvon which faces imminent demolition.

On December 7 the Secretary of State for Wales gave consent for the demolition of the house, in Palace Street, which is grade II listed and, more importantly, lies within a Unesco World Heritage Site. This society and many others objected to the original listed building application for demolition, but our views have been ignored.

The justification given by the Welsh Secretary is the very poor structural condition of the building. This is undeniable, but whether total demolition is the only option is an area for debate. We were led to believe that a public inquiry was inevitable, where the technical arguments could be discussed. We are amazed that the Secretary of State has so little regard for the World Heritage Site that he felt able to make this decision without an inquiry.

A World Heritage designation has no formal position in British planning law. But under the World Heritage Convention which the Government signed in 1984 it undertook to afford the area the best possible protection, because the Caernarvon site is considered of world importance. The Secretary of State does not seem to think so.

Two years ago we joined an international campaign protesting at the proposed demolition of medieval houses in the World Heritage Site of Lübeck in Germany. Little did we think that we would have to face a similar case at home.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN SELL,
Chairman,
Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings,
37 Spital Square, E1.
December 20.

Key to sporting success

From Professor Emeritus John Radford

Sir, Mr Iain Sproat, the Sports Minister, is going to Australia to discover the secret of success at cricket (report, December 13).

I could have saved him the trouble, and taxpayers a certain amount of money. There is abundant research evidence on the conditions for excellence in sport, and other fields.

The main factors include the general encouragement of an area, careful selection of promising individuals, effective rewards, skilled coaching, preferably on a one-to-one basis, and above all carefully planned and persistent practice over a lengthy period, normally at least five to ten years.

Detailed research shows exactly how and why these factors work — they lie behind the success of every individual champion and every great team.

As so often, the knowledge we have. It is the application that is lacking.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN RADFORD,
University of East London,
Department of Psychology,
Romford Road, E15.
December 14.

With the postal delays that often occur at this time of year, it is useful, where possible, for letters that are intended for publication to be faxed to 071-782 5046. Please give contact telephone numbers.

All ballgowns and ballcocks

From the Chief Executive of The Institute of Plumbing

Sir, Alan Coren, in his article today on the *QE2* debacle, strikes a nostalgic chord: his Dad sounds like my late father who, with my uncle, ran Watts Bros, Plumbers, Hot Water Fitters, Sanitary Engineers, Chard, Somerset up to the late 1960s.

Society around the world, as Mr Coren rightly says, fails to appreciate the scope and complexity of plumbing and, consequently, of the work of the plumber, plumbing engineer, consultant or lecturer. A *Times* editorial in 1991, for instance, declared that "A plumber was once a top craftsman, a man who possessed secrets beyond the comprehension of other mortals ... Much modern plumbing requires little skill, as is apparent from the shelves of DIY supermarkets."

That was and is a total misconception. The technical and regulatory knowledge necessary today for competent plumbing design and installation — whether for domestic property, commercial or public buildings or ocean-going liners — has increased immensely in the past 50 years.

We are a proud breed, who have become accustomed to abuse since Roman times. We sleep well, however, in the knowledge that as long as people inhabit the earth and sail on the high seas, they will always need plumbers.

Yours sincerely,
ANDY WATTS,
Chief Executive,
The Institute of Plumbing,
64 Station Lane, Hornchurch, Essex.
December 21.

From Commander W. J. Alcock, RN (retd)

Sir, It is astonishing that Cunard should not have programmed their refit of the *QE2* with more foresight. This lamentable episode does not reflect so much upon the workforce as on senior management, whose assessment of the time required appears to have been wholly unrealistic.

Their decision to send the ship to sea with passengers in predictably foul Atlantic winter weather with craftsmen still at work seems to have been even more unrealistic. How can a workforce operate efficiently on a heaving ship cut off from their own "logistic support"?

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM ALCOCK,
St Andrew, Midhurst Road,
Haslemere, Surrey.
December 21.

From Ms Elizabeth Mason

Sir, It would appear from the space devoted in your report today to Professor Christine Hall's comments on ballgowns that she is more concerned with this aspect of her cruise than any other. Really? Were the gentlemen passengers mentioned in the article similarly questioned regarding their evening wear? And why was it necessary to inform us of the professor's marital status, but not that of the male passengers?

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH MASON,
8 Alton Drive,
Lexden, Colchester, Essex.
December 21.

From Mrs Joan Salter

Sir, Renovations on our bathroom started in 1993, three weeks before Christmas. I had my first shower in July 1994 and the floor has yet to be laid.

I offer Cunard, and all who hope to sail with them, my heartfelt sympathies.

Yours truly,
JOAN SALTER,
64 Church Crescent, N10.

Christmas shopping

From Mrs Joanne Foster

Sir, With the bleating of so many shop keepers and others concerning the public's apparently parsimonious approach to spending this Christmas (report and leading article, December 19), have they stopped to consider that many people are heartily sick of having the consumer face of Christmas rammed down their throats from September onwards (I have even seen Christmas cards on sale at the end of August).

I suggest that retailers emulate many of our European neighbours and hold back on the promotion of Christmas until the beginning of December. People would then accord present-purchasing the focus of attention it deserves, at the appropriate time of year.

Yours faithfully,
JOANNE FOSTER,
3 The Ridings, Bulcote, Nottingham.
December 19.

Season's bleatings

From Mr George Medd

Sir, I am surprised that the Dean of Lichfield (letter, December 19) is focusing on the circular and not the secular at this time of year. My Christmas post is suffering from an increase of "round robins" and a dearth of cribs, stars and wise men.

Yours in ever increasing circulars,
GEORGE MEDD,
Littlebourne Cottage,
Twyford, Hampshire.
December 19.

Sports letters, page 4i
Business letters, page 27

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK
December 21: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by the Viscount Boyne (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Shropshire) at the Funeral of Sir John Dugdale (formerly Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Shropshire) which was held in Holy Trinity Church, Much Wenlock, Shropshire, this afternoon.

The Prince of Wales was represented by Major Raymond Seymour.

The Duke and Duchess of York were represented by Major William McLean.

The Prince Edward was represented by Mr Algernon Heber-Percy.

The Princess Royal was represented by the Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester and The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were represented by Mrs Michael Harvey.

Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy, was represented by Mrs Peter Afia.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 21: The Prince of Wales, Patron, this morning visited the Cotswold Care Project, Burleigh, Stroud, Gloucestershire.

His Royal Highness, Patron, this afternoon visited the Sue Ryder Home at Leckhampton Court, Leckhampton, Gloucestershire.

Mr Matthew Butler was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 21: The Duchess of Kent, Patron, Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, this afternoon opened the Macmillan Palliative Day Care Unit, the Alfred Bean Hospital, Bridlington Road, Driffield, Humberside, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Humberside (Mr Anthony Bethell).

Mrs Colin Marsh was in attendance.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Karl Abel, composer, Cöthen, Germany, 1725; John Crome, landscape painter, Norwich, 1768; Jean Henri Fabre, naturalist, St-Léon, France, 1823; Giacomo Puccini, composer, Lucca, Italy, 1858; Edwin Arlington Robinson, poet, Head Tide, Maine, 1869; Edgar Varèse, composer, Paris, 1883.

DEATHS: Duc de Sully, soldier and statesman, Villebon, France, 1641; William Hyde Wollaston, physician, London, 1828; George Eliot, novelist, London, 1880; Dwight Moody, evangelist, Northfield, Massachusetts, 1899; Baron Richard von Krafft-Ebing, neuro-psychiatrist, Graz, 1902; Nathanael West, novelist, El Cento, California, 1940; Beatrix Potter, children's writer, Sawrey, Lancashire, 1943; Harry Langdon, silent film star, California, 1944.

Alfred Dreyfus, a French army officer, was imprisoned on Devil's Island on a charge of espionage, later proved false, 1894.

Willhelm Rontgen made the first radiograph or X-ray of his wife's hand, 1895.

Birthdays today

Air Chief Marshal Sir John Aiken, 73; Mr James Burke, broadcaster, 58; Dr Alan Bush, composer, conductor and pianist, 94; Mr Robin Corbett, MP, 61; Viscount Davidson, 66; Mr Noel Edmonds, broadcaster, 46; Mr Maurice Gibb and Mr Robin Gibb, singers, 45; Miss Patricia Hayes, actress, 85; Mrs Karin Jonzen, sculptor, 80; Dr Judith McClure, Headmistress, St George's School for Girls, Edinburgh, 49; Mr Trefor Alfred Morris, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary, 60; Mr Chris Old, cricketer, 46; the Rev Lord Sandford, 74; Lord Stott, 85; the Duke of Westminster, 43; Mr Ken Whitmore, playwright, 55; Sir Peregrine Worsthorne, journalist, 71.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Richard Amys, Priest-in-charge, Gravesend Holy Family w. Ifield: to be Rector, Gravesend Holy Family w. Ifield (Rochester).

The Rev Alan Brooksbank, Rector, Hagley: to be Vicar, Claines (Worcester).

The Rev Dr Michael Chandler, Rector, St Stephen's, Canterbury, and Rural Dean of Canterbury: to be Residentiary Canon of Canterbury Cathedral.

The Rev Richard Cheetham, Vicar, Luton, St Augustine of Canterbury to be *also* Rural Dean of Luton (St Albans).

The Rev Stephen Cook, Team Vicar, Keynsham Team Ministry (Bath and Wells): to be Vicar, Hanham (Bristol).

The Rev Andrew Dow, Vicar, St John the Baptist, Knowle: to be *also* Rural Dean of Solihull (Birmingham).

The Right Rev Bill Flagg, Assistant Bishop in the diocese of Southwell: to be Adviser for Overseas Relations, same diocese. He will continue as Adviser to parishes on Stewardship and Giving, and on Rural Affairs, but relinquish his responsibility as Adviser on Healing, all in the diocese of Southwell.

Headmasters' Conference

Chairman

Mr H.R. Wright, Chief Master of King Edward's School, Birmingham, has been elected Chairman of The Headmasters' Conference for 1995.

Residents work together to provide their own amenities

Soulless estates given new life

By John Young

SWELLING and undulating above the coast and overlooking the elegant squares, crescents and terraces of Regency Hove, the Downs provided an unrivalled opportunity for 20th-century architects and developers to create a complementary suburban masterpiece. But instead the green slopes are festooned not with leafy avenues and hillside drives, but with a bleak, depressing sprawl of cheap "semis", council estates and low-rise blocks of uninviting flats.

It was the desecration of Kipling's "blunt, bow-headed, whale-backed Downs" to the east of Brighton that did much to spur the Town and Country Planning Act 1947. But, if post-war Hangleton and Knoll are supposed to vindicate the planning system, the visitor can be excused a snort of derision. Sussex-by-the-sea has been inexcusably violated.

In some parts of the country Hangleton would probably not be considered a deprived area. There are no tower blocks, no slums and plenty of open space. But there are few, if any, amenities either, and that is what the Hangleton and Knoll Project has set about providing.

The area consists of a mixture of postwar private and council housing. At the time it was built there were plenty of jobs and good public transport. But in recent years its inhabitants have suffered from high unemployment and, according to Barry Hulyer, the project director, it was largely neglected by the council.

"It has all the soullessness of a typical dormitory estate, with the difference that the people here are surrounded by affluence and yet not part of it," he says. "There is a high proportion of young people who are bored and stuck living at home because of unemployment and their lack of educational qualifications."

The scenic attractions provide only limited compensation. The Downs, a summer playground, are cold and exposed in winter and have now been largely cut off from the estate by the new A27 Brighton by-pass.

The project was established by a group of concerned residents in the early 1980s. A decade after Mr Hulyer arrived in 1984 as its first salaried community worker, it now has a staff of nine and an annual budget of £120,000, funded by local authorities, charitable trusts, churches and companies including American Express, BT and Guardian Royal Exchange.

It has supported more than 60 local initiatives, among them a children's after-school club, a youth club, a young mothers' group, a health club, a playgroup, and an old people's lunch club. Activities include a youth festival, a children's circus, organised sports and outdoor adventures, a Christmas pantomime, fashion shows, drama, music, dance, photography and wildlife studies, camping trips and other holidays, and the publication of community newspapers. One notable spectacle staged on Hove seafront, with bands and fireworks, attracted an audience of 35,000.

"Essentially it is the local people who have done everything," Mr Hulyer says. "Several thousand people have beome involved, and we have simply responded to their needs."

Hove council, which at first had to be persuaded even to undertake regular refuse disposal, has since begun renovating and modernising hundreds of flats and houses and has helped to fund the project centre in Hangleton, part of which it now occupies.

It has also contributed to the cost of a second centre on the Knoll estate, about two miles away, which includes some of the earliest council housing in Britain, built before the First World War. A dilapidated church hall has been enlarged and imaginatively modernised to provide a similar range of services, but is still short of some £40,000 to complete the work.

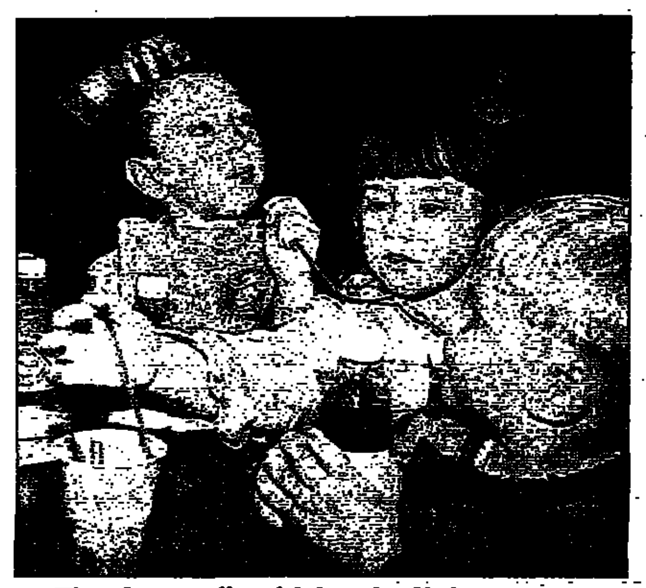
The Hangleton and Knoll Project has won a Marks and Spencer Award for Community Services in the 1994 Community Enterprise Awards sponsored by The Times *and Touche Ross and organised by Business in the Community. The awards will be presented by the Prince of Wales in Manchester on February 8.*

ANDREW HASSON



Children meet Santa Claus in his grotto at a Christmas party arranged by the Hangleton and Knoll Project

THE TIMES COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE AWARDS



Time for a cooling drink at the Christmas party

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T.D.I.J. Bristow and Miss R.B.P. Reddington
The engagement is announced between Timothy Dominic Ian James, eldest son of Mr James and the Hon Mrs Bristow, of Seaview, Isle of Wight, and Rachel Benedicta Port, elder daughter of the Rev Gerald and Mrs Reddington, of St Barnabas, Ealing and Seaview.

Mr R.W.A. Manners and Miss J.K. Hill
The engagement is announced between Richard William Arthur, younger son of Mr and Mrs Robin Manners of Bradley, Stafford, and Josephine Kate, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Hill, of Ufton, Warwickshire.

The Hon Alexander Ogilvie-Grant and Mrs L.C. Potts
The engagement is announced between Alexander, younger son of the Earl of Seafield and Mrs Mary Davies, and Lucy Clare, daughter of Mr Henry Potts and Mrs April Potts.

Dr F.H. Panton and Mrs P.J. Dean
The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place shortly between Frank Panton, of Canterbury, and Pauline Dean, of Tunstall, Sittingbourne, Kent.

M C.B. Simond and Miss S.J. Smart
The engagement is announced between Christian Bernard, eldest son of M Bernard G. Simond, of Geneva, Switzerland, and Mrs Dennis Rance, of Brighton, Sussex, and Sarah Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Smart, of Fryerning, Essex.

Baron William C. Taxis Bordogna Valnigra and Miss M.M. Dunne
The engagement is announced between William Charles, youngest son of the Baron and Baroness Taxis Bordogna Valnigra, and Miranda Mary, youngest daughter of Mr Michael Dunne and the Hon Mrs Daniell.

Mr N.G. Stephens and Miss S.L. Aspinall
The engagement is announced between Nicolas Gwyn Stephens, of Bloomsbury, London, and Susan Lesley Aspinall, of Clayton-Le-Woods, Lancashire.

Marriages

Mr S.C. Fox and Miss L.E.I. Ogden
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 17, at St Etheldreda's, Ely Place, London, of Mr Stuart Fox, only son of Mr and Mrs Frederick Fox to Miss Lucy Ogden, younger daughter of Sir Michael and Lady Ogden. The Rev Kit Cunningham officiated. Mgr Alfred Gilbey was robed and in the Sanctuary.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Catherine Lawrence, Helen Ogden and Oliver Keane. Mr Andrew Ingle was best man.

A reception was held in the Old Hall, Lincoln's Inn.

Mr P.G. St.J. Ansdell and Miss L. Potter
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 17, in the Chapel of New College, Oxford, of Mr Paul Ansdell, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Ansdell of Gloucestershire, to Miss Louise Potter, daughter of Mrs Ian Curteis, of Gloucestershire, and Mr David Potter, of London. The Rev Stephen Tucker officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Becky Potter, Luke Jeffries, Caitlin and Myles Charles-Jones, Auriole Potter, Hugh Rochfort, Oliver Jeffries, Emma Sutton and Harriet Potter. Mr Giles Smyly was best man.

A reception was held in New College Hall and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr M.C. Rollason and Miss N.C. Mitford-Slade
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 17 at St. Michael's Church, Heckfield, of Mr Michael C. Rollason, only son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Rollason of Wetherby, Yorkshire, to Miss Nicola Mitford-Slade, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Patrick Mitford-Slade, of Hartley Wintney, Hampshire. The Rev Arnold Bennett officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Edward Patton, Soniah Bomer, Alice Moore, Fiona Mitford-Slade, Sarah Rollason and Henrietta Rees. Mr Timothy Otty was best man.

The reception was held at the bride's home and the honeymoon is being spent in East Africa.

European Engineers

The following United Kingdom engineers have been awarded the qualification European Engineer by the European Federation of National Engineering Associations (FEANI) entitling them to use the letters Eur Ing as a prefix to their names:

Z Al-Jabary, G Anderson, E C Antonio, S Arnaout, A Ashton, J Atkinson, J A Barnes, J Barrington-Cook, G Birchall, M J R Bishop, G Bona, C Braine, C Bray, J Brown, J P Burdes, F J Cain, M J Calvard, D Campbell, A B Clark, I M Clarke, N R H Cole, A Collins, B Cooke, D Corbett, P Cullop, D Cummings

E A David, G Davies, S Davies, P Dean, J Doyle, P Dyson, R I Edgar, I Fletcher, D Gardner, G J Gerrish, J Gilfrin, A Grant, P Griffies, K J Harrison, D Hart, P W Healey, P L F Hemment, T Hicks, R Hirst, R Hopps, A Hughes, J Hurley, L C Jones, E Karaminas, M Karmis, S A Lewandowski, S Lewis, A Long, J Mackie, A Magrath, C Marshman, V E R McClean, M McCoard, P McKinnon, S Milios, R Milsom, P L Mullen, H F Mulligan

S Narasimhan, S J Newhouse, J K Nicol, M H Nowera, S Pallant, R J Parry, N Patel, A Pettitt, T Poodle, A Proctor, D A Raby, S Randall, S A Rawden, S Reed, A Richardson, P Riches, E Routledge, D Rowson, J Runeckles

N D Scragg, S Selvaratnam M Shephard, D I Sillars, B S Smart, B D Staniforth, S Stockley, J Tait, Y R Teli, E Turton, J Tyler

W P Urquhart, R Wakelen, R Walke, J R Walmsley, R Watson, M Welbourne, R E Welsh, C Wiesner, A Williamson, M Wilson, C Winnie, J Zinn.

Latest wills

Dr Bernard George Budden **Lucas**, of Studland, Dorset, President of the Institute of Hospital Engineering 1973-75, left estate valued at £352,668 net.

Mr William **Cowley**, of Northallerton, North Yorkshire, founder of the Lyke Wake Walk which traditionally stretched 44 miles from the Queen Catherine pub in Osmotherley to the café in Ravenscar, left estate valued at £208,482 net.

Mr Edward Robert **Sands**, of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, left estate valued at £554,533 net. He died intestate.

Sir Donald Keith **Falkner**, of Ilketshall St Margaret, Suffolk, Director of the Royal College of Music 1960-74, and previously a leading bass-baritone, left estate valued at £278,077 net.
He left his Music Library to the Music Department of Cornell University, New York.

Mr Maurice **Gresham**, of Richmond, Surrey, left estate valued at £1,274,512 net. He died intestate.

Ida Mary **Nicoll**, of Westella, North Humberside, left estate valued at £1,784,910 net.
She left £741,000 and certain effects to personal legatees and the residue equally between the North Humberside Hospice Project, Hull, the RNLI, Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, and the Salvation Army.

Other estates (net before tax) include:

Judith Elizabeth **Cooper**, of Woodbridge, Suffolk £1,366,601
Mr Arnold Willoughby **Garner**, of London W5 ..... £565,557
Mrs Olwen **Godman** of London SW3 ..... £591,447
Mr Frank **Hancock**, of Abergele, Clwyd £791,700
Mrs Brenda Doreen **Hanson**, of Newton Abbot, Devon £1,781,882
Mr William Arthur Basil **Harding**, of Tenterden, Kent £812,051
Mrs Ida Seward **Horsley**, of Hessle, North Humberside £1,806,946
Mr Douglas Hartley **Jones**, of Chester £693,470
Ellen Sophia **Kilmister** of Bournemouth, Dorset £647,711

University news

Cambridge
Darwin College
Elected into a Visiting Fellowship: Alexandrina Caroline Buchanan, (Munby Fellow in Bibliography, 1995-96)

Manchester
Recent grants include:
MRC
Selective modulation of potassium channel activity, Dr B J Pleuvry, Professor N J Rothwell and Professor A H Weston, £146,356.
Characterisation of cytocentrin, Dr E C A Paul, £136,863.
A molecular analysis of membrane protein biosynthesis in semi-intact mammalian cells, Dr S High, £131,258.
Somotastain receptor expressions and function in gut epithelia, Dr G Warhurst and Dr A White, £110,652.
NERC
Effects of environmental conditions on the development of buttresses, Dr A R Ennos, £117,780.
PPARC
Multi-frequency observations and theory of interstellar and circumstellar media, Professor J Meaburn, £495,112.
J Rowntree Foundation
Follow-up study to examine the impact of the Child Support Act on a sample of lone mothers and their children who are dependent on income support and family credit, Miss K Clarke and Ms C Glendinning, £53,843.
Royal Society
Astrophysical and geological applications of single atom, Mr J D Gilmour, £180,920.
Schools Curriculum and Assessment Authority
KS3 evaluation, Professor T Christie, £119,594.
Schering
Onapristone study, Professor M Elstein, £234,960.
Onapristone study, Professor M Elstein, £206,274.
SmithKline Beecham Pharm
Study of paroxetine and placebo in the treatment of depressive symptoms associated with low back pain, Professor F H Creed and Professor M I V Jayson, £123,000.
Smiths Charity
Research relating to the genetic factors which contribute to rheumatoid arthritis, Professor A J Silman, £278,819.
UKCCCR (Supplementary)
UK Childhood cancer study, Dr J M Birch, £149,716.
Wellcome Trust (Supplementary)
Innovation in Chinese medicine, Dr J V Pickstone, £198,165.
Investigation into genetic and physical mapping around the dentinogenesis imperfecta type II locus, Dr M J Dixon, £181,407.
Study of brain IL-1 receptors, Professor N J Rothwell, £158,493.
Mechanisms of epithelial bicarbonate transport, Professor R M Case, £153,408.
How does hypoxia increase the proliferative response of retinal cells to exogenous growth factors? Dr M E Boulton, Dr A J Dickson and Professor D McLeod, £114,935.
Research training fellowship in clinical epidemiology, Professor D W Yates, £114,935.

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Be humble always and gentle, and patient too, putting up with one another's failings in the spirit of love.
Ephesians 4 : 2 (REB)

BIRTHS

ATKINSON-DALZIEL - On 8th November, to Kate Dalziel and John Atkinson, a beautiful daughter, Shona Lucy Christina, a sister for Patrick.

BENDALL - On December 19th, to Jennifer (née Binnie) and Richard, a daughter, Flora Charlotte, a sister for Ross.

BOLLAND - To John and Wendy (née Freeman), a son, Oliver Hugh. Born at Warwick Hospital on 20th December. Many thanks to Mr John Hughes and midwifery and medical staff for excellent care and support.

CROSTHWAITE - On December 18th, to Lucinda and Nicolas, a son.

FARQUHAR - On December 17th at The Portland Hospital, to Emma (née Reeves) and Richard, a daughter, Lydia Rose, a sister for Araminta.

BIRTHS

GHAZINOORI - On 16th December 1994, to Elahe and Ali, a beautiful daughter, Alaleh. 6lbs 2ozs

MAITRA - On 18th December, in Tokyo, to Eva (née Korytko) and Sanjit, a son, Matthew Alexander.

MARCH AND KINRARA - On 20th December, to Janet (née Astor) and Charles, a son, Charles Henry.

PARMITER - On 20th December 1994, at 3.48 am at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, to Geoff and Jane Helen, a daughter, Alice Mary Parmiter. 7lbs 14oz.

VAN MEERDAG - On December 7th 1994, to Bryony (née Estcourt) and Jan, a daughter, Jodie, a sister for Max.

WADDELL - On 20th December 1994 in Glasgow, to Marjorie (née Carter) and Graham, a son.

THE TIMES
NOTICE TO READERS
Our new telephone number for Birth, Marriage and Death announcements is
071 782 7272 or fax 071 782 7827

DEATHS

ASHWORTH - On Saturday December 17th 1994, suddenly in Cambridge, Robert Edward. Funeral Service at Great Shelford Parish Church on Friday December 30th at 2 pm.

BUNCH - Douglas Frank Staunton (known as Douglas George), youngest son of the late Robert Staunton Bunch, on Monday December 19th 1994, peacefully at Paignton Hospital, aged 86 years. Much loved brother, uncle and friend. Funeral Service at the Paignton Parish Church on Thursday December 29th at 11.15 am, followed by private cremation. Flowers and enquiries to Maunders Funeral Service, tel: (0803) 666581.

DAY - On December 19th, suddenly at home, Lillian Rose (Anna) of Ashwell, Herts., aged 79. Devoted wife of Howard and mother of Jo. Private cremation. Memorial Service at Ashwell P.C. 3 pm Wednesday 28th December. Family flowers only. Donations to Addenbrooke's Kidney Patients Assn, c/o A.T. Wright, 99 Hay Street, Steeple Morden, Royston, Herts. SG8 0PD.

GAVIN - On December 13th 1994, Michael Maitland, beloved father of Alastair, Christopher, Caroline, Stuart and Isobel. Funeral at 11 am Wednesday December 28th, New Southgate Crematorium, London N11. Enquiries to Leverton & Sons Ltd. (081) 444-5755.

HITING - On December 21st 1994, at the Devonshire Hospital, London, Arthur Noel, aged 73 years. For 46 years beloved husband and best friend of Margot, devoted father to Barbara and son-in-law Bill and loving grandpa to Kate and Sam. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium on Friday December 23rd at 11.45 am, when friends are most welcome to join the family. No flowers please but if wished donations in Arthur's memory to The Stroke Association c/o Wilma Leroy, 38 Prebend Mansions, Chiswick High Road, London W4 2LU.

HOBSON - On 20th December, at The Stoke Mandeville Hospital, after a tragic accident endured with great gallantry, William Francis Cripps, Group Captain R.A.F. (retired), beloved husband of Jean and dearly loved father of Richard. Funeral Service at St Simon Zelotes Church, Milner Street, Chelsea, SW3, on Friday 30th December at 12 noon, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to S.S.A.F.A. c/o Jno. Steel & Son Ltd., Chesil House, Winchester.

HOULTON - Veronica Maria (née Evans) on 20th December peacefully after a courageous fight against illness; much beloved wife to Colonel David Houlton and loving mother to Rupert and Justin. Funeral Service at St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Blackheath, at 11am on Friday 30th December. No flowers please, but donations if desired to Imperial Cancer Research.

KEEBLE - Thomas Whitfield, much loved by Ursula, Roger, Giles and grandchildren. Funeral private. Date of Memorial Service to be announced.

KIMBELL - On December 18th, John U.K. aged 82, of Purton, Wiltshire, formerly of Switzerland, father of Kate and father-in-law of Toc.

LLOYD - On December 17th, Antony Charles Lloyd F.B.A. Emeritus Professor of Philosophy, Liverpool University, aged 78 years, of Hove, Sussex. Enquiries to R.A. Brooks & Son, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, tel: (0444) 454391.

MACAULEY - Diana Phyllis, on Wednesday 21st December, peacefully, wife of William, mother of Tara, Virginia, Mary, William, Mark and Rupert. Funeral Service on Friday 23rd December at 11.30 am at Cloughaleu Church, Manor Kilbride. Family flowers only but donations if desired to R.N.L.I.

MARSHALL - On December 19th, suddenly in London, Geoffrey Wyndham aged 57. Beloved husband of Sally, father of Miranda, Andrew and Julian, and son of Wyndham Joseph and the late Gwendoline May Burdick. Funeral to take place at SS Peter and Paul, Salle, on Wednesday 28th December 1994 at 2 pm. Enquiries to Peter Taylor Funeral Services, 86 Unthank Road, Norwich, tel: (01603) 760787.

NETTLETON - Newcastle-upon-Tyne, formerly of Monkseaton, on December 18th, Francis Edward (Frank) of Slaters Taxis, dear husband of the late Sheila and father of Ricky, Sally and Robin. Service and cremation at Newcastle Crematorium on Wednesday 28th December at 12.30 pm. Friends please meet at the crematorium. Flowers and enquiries to W.S. Harrison & Son, St Mark's House, Shields Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

PENNANT JONES - On 19th December 1994, peacefully, Mary (née Gillett), aged 83, dear wife of Tig, mother of Robert, John, Dinny and Philip, mother-in-law of Sheila, Carol, Bill and Caroline, and grandmother of Owen, Derek, Helena, Sharon, Michael, Richard, Kate, Evan, David, Laura and Jess. Funeral private. No flowers or letters please. Donations, if wished, to British Red Cross.

RANKIN - Cunison Deans, brother of Colin, Ian and Kenneth, peacefully at home, on 18th December, aged 88 years. Funeral at 11.30 am at St Mary's Church, Wimbledon, SW19, on Wednesday 4th January 1995. Family flowers only.

RHODES - On December 19th 1994 Dr. Brian William passed peacefully away aged 75 years, of Gussage All Saints, Dorset. Dearest husband of Leah and the late Jay. Beloved father of Stephen, Frances, Louise, Benjamin, stepfather of Anne and also to Jane, Jean Pierre, ffolliott, Carol and Desmond and a much loved grandpa. Funeral Service at Gussage All Saints Church on Wednesday December 28th at 2 pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please but donations if desired in aid of The Chase Community Friends may be sent to Nicholas O'Hara Funeral Directors, 38 Rowlands Hill, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 1AW. tel: (0202) 882134.

RICHARDS - On 19th December, peacefully after a long illness bravely borne, Elizabeth Mary (née Matheson), many years teacher in Kenya schools. Dear wife of Charles and beloved mother of Stephanie, Janet and Philippa. Funeral Service at St John the Baptist Church, Clayton, Hassocks, on Thursday 29th December at 11 am. No flowers by request but donations, if desired, to Bible Society c/o John Mayston, 25 Grand Avenue, Hassocks, Sussex.

RICKARDS - Jo, born 7th June 1946, beloved wife of Johnny, mother of William and Hattie and stepmother to Anna and Clare. Daughter of Janet and the late Bill Roberts, sister of June and Jane. Peacefully at West Stratton on December 21st 1994. Family funeral at Newton St Loe, no flowers please. Memorial Service later.

RUSHBROOK - Derek Arthur, born London 1914, died peacefully in his sleep after a long illness in Ligonier, Pennsylvania, 19th December. R.I.P.

STAVEACRE - Peacefully at home in Combs, Chapel-en-le-Frith, on 20th December 1994, Maurice Fleming O.B.E., aged 85 years. Much loved husband of Mary and the late Joan, dear father of Rachel, Peter, Richard and Mark. Private funeral.

UNDERWOOD - (née Einhorn) Geraldine Susan aged 46, December 18th. Much loved wife of Martin Gregory, mother of Emily, Thomas and Amy, adored daughter and family. Funeral Service December 23rd 11 am at St Matthias and St George, Astwood Bank, Worcs. Enquiries to Huxley F/S. (0527) 893698.

WOODHEAD - On December 21st 1994, peacefully at home, Lucy Bonella Woodhead, aged 88. Dear mother of Susan, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at St Andrew's Church, Letheringsett, on Wednesday December 28th at 12 noon followed by private cremation. Cut flowers only. Donations, if desired, to UNICEF c/o Lloyds Durham Funeral Directors tel: (0263) 713113.

WOODMAN - Stanley, of Albrighton, passed peacefully away on Monday 19th December 1994, aged 86 years. Husband of Ivy and much loved father of Peter, Janet, Ann, Chris and Geoff. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Albrighton, at 10am on Friday 23rd December, followed by cremation at Bushbury, Wolverhampton. Family flowers only, but donations if desired, to The British Heart Foundation.

ANNIVERSARIES

JACKMAN:CARGILL - On 22nd December 1939 at St Mary's, Quetta, Jo to Joan. Now at Hove (actually).

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

LYNE - On December 22nd 1944 in Cardiff, Michael to Noreice.

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OBITUARIES

DEAN RUSK

Dean Rusk, American Secretary of State, 1961-69, died in Athens, Georgia, on December 20 aged 85. He was born in Cherokee County, Georgia, on February 9, 1909.

DEAN RUSK played a large part, after the Second World War, in laying the ghost of American isolationism. He helped to ensure, in the face of the instincts of less outward-looking Americans, that his country met its responsibilities under the United Nations Charter and the North Atlantic Treaty. There was a Churchillian flavour to his determination to stand up to the aggression of dictators.

Appointed Secretary of State by President Kennedy he was kept on by President Lyndon Johnson, remaining until the end of Johnson's term of office. In those eight years he handled four major global events: the Bay of Pigs invasion, the Cuban missile confrontation, the signing of a nuclear non-proliferation treaty with the Soviet Union and the Vietnam War.

Rusk was Secretary of State longer than anyone except Cordell Hull, who served 11 years in Franklin Roosevelt's Administration. During the troubled Kennedy and Johnson years Rusk's friendly, reassuring if sometimes enigmatic features — the bald head and hooded eyes gave him the look of an occidental buddha — provided the public face of the United States.

He belonged to an important tradition of the best kind of liberalism, but his determination in supporting South Vietnam in resisting Communist aggression attracted, ironically, the wrath of fashionable liberal sentiment, and for a time obscured the breadth of his service to his country.

If not a great innovator, Rusk was one of the most effective operators of American foreign policy during a period in which the Communist powers were constantly probing and challenging the West. He said in a 1990 interview that he wasted no time on regrets. "Kennedy and Johnson are not here to defend themselves. I won't draw away from my share in the decisions they made, because I agreed at the time." He believed that that the United States had a treaty responsibility to South Vietnam that it could not ignore. "I do not believe," he said, "that we can be honourable in Europe and dishonourable in Asia."

President Johnson credited Rusk with developing the proposal that led to the unconditional halt of bombing of North Vietnam in March 1968.

David Dean Rusk's father was of Scottish-Irish stock who had trained for the Presbyterian ministry but was forced to give up preaching because of a throat ailment. He and his wife supported their five children by teaching in a rural school and farming. From his parents the young Rusk inherited qualities that were to mark his public career: a gift for didactic exposition and an unswervingly principled approach to decision-making.

What lifted him out of the small-town background was winning a Rhodes Scholarship to St John's College, Oxford (which later, but long before he had become a major world figure, elected him an honorary fellow).

His education in Europe at the time when the dictators were on the march had a profound effect on him. He was present at the celebrated debate in 1933 when the Oxford Union voted that "this House will in no circumstances fight for King and Country".

Rusk totally rejected such sentiments believing that they gave succour to totalitarian dictatorships. Unusually for an American of his time, he developed a strong sense that an essential part of the American dream was willingness to fight against tyranny wherever it raised its head.

Thirty years later that vision was to fit well into the famous rhetoric with which John F. Kennedy launched his presidency, with Rusk as his Secretary of State.

But before diplomacy came an academic career. Home from Oxford, Rusk joined the staff of the Californian women's college, Mills. He had meanwhile obtained a reserve commission in the US Army, and he was on active service a year before Pearl Harbor.

His war service, in Intelligence, was centred on the Far East, latterly on the staff of Lord Mountbatten. The quality of his intelligence reports brought him to the notice of General Marshall, the US Chief of Staff and future Secretary of State — a factor that eased his transfer from the Army to the diplomatic service.

One of Rusk's more dubious diplomatic achievements — while he was still in uniform at the time of the Japanese surrender — was to draw the line on the map along the 38th Parallel which split Korea into two, and which was to feature in the war that the new United Nations Organization was shortly to fight.

In 1946 he joined the State Department, initially in the section dealing with policy on the UN. It was a testing time. There were powerful American voices calling not only for rapid demobilisation of US military forces but against



involvement in any collective peacekeeping organisations. State Department morale was not helped by the attacks of Senator McCarthy. And there was disillusionment at the collapse of the Chiang Kai-shek regime in China, which Washington had regarded as a stabilising world influence.

Against that background, Rusk's singleness of vision and administrative gifts brought him rapidly to the fore. His innate caution, and a characteristic that some of those who knew him thought of as lack of colour in his personality, helped to preserve him from the threats posed by McCarthyism, which deprived the department of some of its ablest men.

In 1950 he became Assistant Secretary for Far Eastern Affairs in time to be at the centre of events when the Korean War broke out. From the first he was an advocate of collective resistance to the North Korean attack.

In 1952 health problems caused Rusk to resign from the State Department. He moved to the not inconsiderable post of president of the Rockefeller Foundation. It was said that he made it a staider, less adventurous charity, but he might well have spent the rest of his working life there in quiet dignity.

His diplomatic skills, however, had not been forgotten. When Kennedy was elected President in 1960, he chose Rusk as his Secretary of State. It was a surprise. The two men did not know each other personally. Nor did Rusk really fit in to the boyish "Camelot" atmosphere that surrounded Kennedy.

He was the only man in the Cabinet whom the President did not address by his first name. "I didn't," Rusk recalled drily, "get pushed into Ethel's swimming pool and things like that." However, he brought into the brilliant but youthful team that surrounded Kennedy a useful leavening of steadiness, trust and experience.

He provided unswerving loyalty to the President in 1961 when a group of Cuban exiles, supported by the the Central Intelligence Agency, tried to invade Cuba to oust Fidel Castro. The attempt was a fiasco. Evidence has subsequently emerged indicating that Rusk did not support the attempt from the start but, nevertheless, went along with the President's decision.

A year later came the second crisis over Cuba when Kennedy ordered Khrushchev to dismantle the missile sites the Soviet Union had erected there. Kennedy's advisers were split between reacting harshly or cautiously if Khrushchev failed to comply.

When he sensed that Khrushchev had begun to back down, Rusk summed it up with droll humour. "We're standing eyeball to eyeball, and the other fellow just blinked."

He saw his job primarily as carrying out the President's policy, not devising his own. In any case, Kennedy was determined to run his own foreign policy. Although the new President began by paying lip-service to traditional diplomacy, he soon began to rely increasingly on his own intuition and his own government-to-government contacts. It was noticed that Rusk played little or no part in many of the President's diplomatic activities; indeed, he was not even present at the Nassau meeting at the end of 1962 between Kennedy and Macmillan at which the Skybolt was interred and Britain given American Polaris missiles to replace it.

Rusk had early on expressed his doubts about US involvement in Vietnam, writing to Kennedy in 1961 to warn that the involvement of US forces in guerrilla combat would lead to a full-scale war.

At the State Department Rusk did something to restore the damage to morale caused first by McCarthy and then by Dulles, a Secretary of State who had not believed in listening to his subordinates.

European observers sometimes thought of Rusk as being all too wedded to the ideas and rhetoric of the old frontiers of world thinking. He impressed them however with the clarity and conciseness of his logic and the conviction that underlay it. His greatest satisfaction, he said later, was "keeping the nuclear beast in its cage".

Personally, Rusk had more in common with Kennedy's successor after the assassination. Lyndon Johnson, a fellow Southerner from an earthy background, was a Washington professional who admired a fellow professional. The Vietnam War, launched by Kennedy, was by then growing in horror. Johnson and Rusk increasingly found themselves, in the latter's words, "occupying some foxholes together".

Vietnam indeed split the American people grievously, but Rusk's philosophy was clear. He saw it not as an anti-Communist crusade but simply as demonstrating the same high principles that the free peoples had fought for in the Second World War.

After leaving office Rusk said he thought he had made two errors in judgment about US policy in South-East Asia. He had "underestimated the tenacity of the North Vietnamese and overestimated the patience of the American people."

He always hoped that history would justify his Vietnam policy. He was also able to argue that America's determination over Vietnam paved the way for detente with the Soviet Union.

Certainly, in the great Senatorial debate on Vietnam he emerged as by far the most effective exponent of the official viewpoint. By the end of the Johnson administration he was second only to the President in the Cabinet. But when that administration ended he found himself one of the Vietnam casualties. He had no private means, and he seemed to be barred from the sort of jobs that an ex-member of a Democratic Cabinet might have traditionally stepped into. In the bitterness of the late 1960s, the liberal establishment had turned against him — even if at one level his liberal credentials were impeccable: he was in fact the first member of the Kennedy Cabinet to speak out on civil rights: one of his sons was an active civil rights worker; and his daughter had a black husband. In 1971, however, the state university of his home state, Georgia, appointed him to the altogether appropriate post of professor of international law — but not without protests from the non-liberal side: Georgia's governor at the time was a staunch opponent of civil rights.

In 1976 he received an honorary KBE. His many honorary doctorates included one from Oxford.

Rusk was a humane and courteous man, quite without vanity. He was never vindictive or petty although he could be cutting to subordinates. He is survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter.

FREDDIE SALES

Freddie Sales, music-hall comedian, died in Epsom, Surrey, on November 25 aged 73. He was born in Hull on November 27, 1920.

ALTHOUGH Freddie Sales was never quite in the same league as Tommy Trinder, Arthur Askey or Tommy Handley he was certainly a household name in Variety and radio during the 1940s and 1950s. In Britain he packed seaside resorts with his traditional, family-orientated comic routines. Later, in the 1960s and 1970s, he did much the same thing in Las Vegas, where American audiences, after some initial bewilderment, warmed to his eccentric, music-hall style delivery.

Sales was a versatile player — equally good at telling jokes in the traditional way or at putting real life under the microscope, as when examining the trials of getting comfortable in bed or taking a child to a restaurant. However, he will probably be best remembered for his "baby sketch", in which he appeared wearing a large romper suit and bonnet in an oversized playpen, wielding his large wooden "poon", that being his baby talk for spoon.

He was born Frederick Harry Walker in Hull, the third generation of a theatrical family who were involved in everything from appearing on stage to making the costumes for local revues and pantomimes. His father was a music-hall comedian who gaved Freddie the invaluable advice that there was no such thing as a new gag, only a gag that no one had heard before.

Sales left school, where he had built a reputation as an impressionist, at the age of 16 to appear in a local revue. He made his first professional appearance in 1937 at the Theatre Royal, Barnsley, in variety and at 18 made his debut as a comedian in North Wales, flopping badly on the first night. "Well may ye weep," the company's Scottish pianist told him later. "If anyone deserved to die the death, it was you." Sales rebuilt his shattered confidence and, having perfected his act, made his first London appearance in 1946, at the Palace Theatre, Chelsea.

In the early 1950s Sales was the supporting comic to the Scottish comedian Dave Willis in Howard and Wyndham's *Half Past Eight* revue at the Kings Theatre in Glasgow. Early in the season Willis was taken ill and Sales took over as principal comedian. He established himself as a great favourite with Scottish audiences. He followed the season by playing the role of the king in *Jack and the Beanstalk* at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, with Albert Burdon and Harry Gunn.

At the same time he became a popular radio star with the BBC, making numerous appearances on *Variety Bandbox* alongside Tony Hancock and Mrs Shufflewick and then in his own series *Sales Talk* and *Sales Now On* in addition to regular broadcasts on BBC's Scottish home service.

He continued to be a headliner in Variety but in the 1960s his career changed dramatically when a visiting American producer saw his act and asked him to appear in Las Vegas. Sales was astonished — very few British artists having managed to conquer the Las Vegas "strip". However, after experimenting first with American-style humour and then reverting to his old, tried-and-tested music hall material, Sales did just that, and became for some years a support act at clubs like the Silver Slipper, the Desert Sands and the Desert Inn. In poor health, he returned to Britain in the 1980s.

A genial and generous man, he summed up his career recently by saying "I've been lucky. I played the Glasgow Empire and I never got paid off. I conquered Las Vegas for ten years and got paid a lot. No one could ask for more."

He is survived by his wife and a daughter.

RONALD RIDOUT

Ronald Ridout, writer of English textbooks, died on December 5 aged 78. He was born on July 23, 1916.

RONALD RIDOUT had a worldwide reputation as a writer of innovative school textbooks. As a teacher of English in the 1940s he decided that none of the available books provided the stimulus to awaken and hold the interest of the young in the use of their mother tongue, and so he set out to fill the gap by writing his own.

The result was *English Today*, published by Ginn and Co in 1947-48, a completely new concept in English textbooks in that it was written in five parts instead of the customary four to correspond with the normal five years of secondary schooling. This proved to be a boon to teachers, but of even more importance to pupils was the fact that the books were attractive in appearance and interesting in content. They were bound in cream with different coloured lettering in contrast to the more conventional brown or dark red binding, and had Ridout's distinctive logo on the back.

Inside there were extracts from, for example, *Wind in the Willows* or *Alice in Wonderland* for younger children, H. G. Wells or Byron for older ones, often chosen by Ridout's wife Betty, a great lover of literature. There were also puzzles and jokes as well as the more formal grammar and vocabulary exercises, clearly set out and enhanced by black and white illustrations. Although methods have changed and new books have superseded *English Today*, the series could be said to be the forerunner of the modern English textbook.

Ronald Joseph Ridout was born in Farnham, Surrey, the son of the geography master at Farnham Grammar School which Ronald attended. After leaving school he became a bank clerk for a short time before going up to Oxford to St Catherine's Society (now St Catherine's College) to read English Language and Literature. He also gained a half-Blue in athletics. After leaving university he



taught at Shrewsbury and at schools in Luton and in Portsmouth where he was head of the English department and where he began his writing.

The educational publisher Ginn and Co accepted *English Today* with alacrity and Ridout then gave up teaching and joined the staff of Ginn, continuing to write at the same time. In 1950, because of the great success of his books, he was able to leave the firm and concentrate on producing textbooks. He turned his attention to the primary sector and became a pioneer in the use of workbooks which encouraged children to work on their own and at their own speed.

He travelled widely in Africa, South America, the Caribbean and the Far East and soon realised how ill-adapted English textbooks were to children whose culture was so different from life in Britain. He thereupon began a whole series of books based on his observation of the various countries he visited. His output was so great that he appeared in *The Guinness Book of Records* as the most prolific British textbook writer. At the time he had written more than 500 books and sold 91 million copies.

As a writer Ridout was very disciplined. His working hours were comparatively short but he wrote with great concentration for a time and would then stop and do some physical task such as cutting the lawn or digging out a swimming pool manually before returning to his desk.

Writing, however, was not his only interest; he enjoyed travelling for pleasure, joined in local activities such as Rotary and was a great supporter of the WEA. He had a keen and somewhat sardonic sense of humour and was an acute observer of all around him.

In 1990 his wife Betty, whom he had married in 1940, died. Despite this blow and the crippling condition of ataxia which had an increasing hold on him, his spirits did not flag and his mind remained alert. He continued to travel and died in South Africa, where he had gone for a three-month holiday.

He is survived by his son and two daughters.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELL done prize winners Ray Sears, Bob Kitson, Gordon Fielding, Cris Shirley. I would like to wish everyone a magical Xmas. A special thanks to Morris for choosing the eight of clubs. regards Howard.

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Court & Social Page

Over the Christmas period the following deadlines will apply:-

Notices to appear on Friday, December 23 should be received in writing by 5pm on Wednesday, December 21

Notices to appear on Saturday, December 24; Monday, December 26; Tuesday, December 27; Wednesday, December 28 should be received in writing by 12 noon on Thursday, December 22

All notices are accepted subject to confirmation

Tel: 071 782 7347 Fax: 071 481 9313

FIRE AT RICHMOND HOUSE

Yesterday morning between eight and nine o'clock, the Duke of Richmond's house in Privy Gardens was discovered to be on fire. When the engines arrived, the flames had got to such a height that it was a considerable time before they could be in any degree reduced; but fortunately the fire having broke out at the top of the house, an opportunity was thereby afforded of getting out the greatest part of his Grace's valuable collection of pictures, books, and papers, with the plate and principal part of the furniture of the lower apartments, which were removed to places of safety in the neighbourhood, by the assistance of a great number of the privates of the Duke of York's regiment. A party of the regiment was also under arms to keep off the mob.

The flames raged with great violence till about twelve o'clock, when the roof falling in, the conflagration was prevented from spreading any further, though great fears were entertained for some time, that the Hon. Col. Lenox's house adjoining would share in the calamity. But by the exertions of the firemen and people who assisted, this was prevented.

The fire begun in the bedchamber of Miss Le Clair, the Duchess of Richmond's companion, who was in bed, and was so much alarmed that she was unable to move, and was brought out on her bed. It was occasioned by a spark of wood from the fire, which had been just lighted, catching the bed curtains.

During the rage of the fire, a favourite spaniel dog of the Duke's was observed at the window of an upper apartment, jumping and making endeavours to get through the glass.

His Grace offering to reward any person that would save him, a waterman, by means of ladders fastened together, mounted to the window, threw up the sash, and brought the dog down safe. The Duke gave him some money, and desired him to call on him the next day; a person who assisted in holding the ladder received two guineas.

The inside of the house is destroyed, but the out-offices and walls are not much injured. His Grace attended during the whole time, and was very active in assisting personally, and giving directions to the engines where to throw the water. The Dukes of York and Clarence were also present, the former was very active and gave orders to a party of his regiment to work the floating engines. The whole loss, we learn, falls on his Grace, none of the property being insured. Their Graces slept last night at the Duke of Buccleugh's.

ON THIS DAY

December 22 1791

No doubt the soldiers buckled to their task, for the owner of the house, the third duke, was Master of the Ordnance.

MARRIED

Tuesday, at St Clement Danes, by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of London, Benjamin Gascoyne, Esq., second son of the late Bamber Gascoyne, Esq., and brother to the present Member, to Miss Cecilia Watts, second daughter of H. Watts, Esq.

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- ☐ degree level plus formal marketing qualification
- ☐ marketing professional with 5-10 years Financial Services experience
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If you would like to be considered for this challenging and exciting role in one of the largest media groups in the world, please send your career history to Russell White quoting reference RW/ST/530. at The Lloyd Group, Alhambra House, 27-31 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0AU. Fax: 071-925 2220.

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  practical sales experience (ref:AMX)

Successful candidates will receive an attractive remuneration package, together with generous benefits.

Applicants should write quoting present earnings and enclosing a current CV to Deutsche Telekom Ltd., 33 Broadwick Street, London W1V 1FR. Please mark envelopes with the relevant job ref code.

Recruitment Manager

Central London - to £30k plus benefits

Rapid expansion in the European practice of a prestigious international management consulting firm has created a challenging opportunity for a highly skilled recruiting professional. In order to support continued growth, the firm has decided to create a new dedicated recruitment role.

The Recruitment Manager will have a key role to play in building the firm's practice in Europe.
Responsibilities will include:

- Assisting Partners and Consultants with the development of our annual recruitment plans and programmes
- Logistics management for our overall BA and MBA recruitment activities (candidate screening, campus presentations, interviewing, candidate follow-up, special events etc.)
- Liaison with University and Business School campuses
- Hosting candidates during office visits

The successful candidate will be a skilled and resourceful organiser, with a record of achievement in a comparable role.
Experience of dealing with business schools and of the management consultancy profession are advantageous.

Interested candidates should send a detailed CV to: Peter Aves, Marakon Associates, 1-3 Strand, London, WC2N 5HP, including details of current remuneration and availability.

Marakon Associates

Search & Selection

Birmingham

Excellent Salary, Bonus, Benefits & Car

Hoggett Bowers is widely recognised as one of Britain's leading Search & Selection organisations. Recently endorsed by achieving ISO 9002, our reputation has been built upon our commitment to quality and excellence.

As a result of our continued growth and development, opportunities exist for outstanding Search & Selection consultants to join our team in Birmingham.

Candidates should possess a good first degree, ideally a professional post graduate qualification and must demonstrate a proven track record within a professional recruitment environment, together with the ability to develop business at the highest level.

In return Hoggett Bowers provides exceptional training and career development and the opportunity to join one of Britain's most progressive Recruitment Groups.

We also invite applications from candidates interested in working in our London and Manchester offices.

To apply, please send your Curriculum Vitae detailing current salary package to: Cindy Irvine, Managing Director, Hoggett Bowers, 5 Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, London EC4A 1DY, quoting Ref: HCI/6348/ST.

Hoggett Bowers
EXECUTIVE SEARCH AND SELECTION

Head of Production

(Blow-Fill-Seal Technology)

Cheshire

c.£45,000 Package

This independent division of a trans-national business is a centre of excellence and part of the fastest growing eye care company in the world. Following a major investment in new plant and equipment, the company now wishes to appoint an experienced production professional to manage and capitalise on its extremely sophisticated computer-controlled technology operating under hygienic conditions.

Reporting to the Managing Director you will be a member of the Management Committee, participating in the general management of the business. With responsibility for a sizeable number of production and engineering staff you will ensure that high quality cost-competitive products are made available to the market on schedule.

Probably aged 35 to 45 and educated to degree level you will come from a MRP II background where cost reduction, culture change and continuous improvement have been achieved. The successful candidate will have at least 5 years experience in senior production management and possess strong man-management skills.

Of particular interest are applicants with knowledge of liquid filling and packaging as well as GMP and the Medical Devices Directive. Rewards and prospects are excellent for a commercially minded manager able to impact on the business.

Interested candidates should, in the first instance, submit a CV to Derek Haynes, Hoggett Bowers, Amethyst House, Spring Gardens, Manchester, M2 1EA. 061-832 0445. Fax: 061-832 0089, quoting Ref: MDH/6331/ST.

Hoggett Bowers
EXECUTIVE SEARCH AND SELECTION

Franklin Mint is the world's leading creator of fine quality collectables and one of the largest direct response marketers.

They are now looking to add three key roles to their team which is based in London Docklands.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS SUPPORT - Europe

As potential successor to the Vice President and General Manager - Europe, you will direct the operations support functions vital to the success of Franklin Mint's business activities in Europe.

People and information systems resources which support our Customer Service and marketing operations are critical in our direct marketing environment. You will be responsible for providing effective support in these areas and for developing and implementing progressive new systems to meet our future business needs.

You are likely to be energetic and ambitious, with the maturity and presence to direct this key area. You should demonstrate a strong understanding of direct marketing/customer service operations as well as consumer credit control and collections methods with a strategic understanding of information systems and computer operations. An effective line manager, you will have excellent analytical skills and a strong business acumen. Ref. LH/FM/1094.

CUSTOMER SERVICE TRAINING MANAGER - Europe

We are looking for a results oriented, highly motivated professional with a history of achievement in the development and implementation of training programmes and the demonstrated ability to contribute to operational improvement initiatives. A "process" thinker, you will help advance our efforts to improve our service performance throughout the UK and continental Europe.

To fill this key Pan-European support role, we seek a strong leader with excellent communication skills, as you will work closely with the Customer Service groups in our eight European offices and liaise with our US headquarters. You must be fully PC literate. Previous experience with online Customer Service systems and European language skills are definite pluses. Ref. LH/FM/1194.

MANAGER, CUSTOMER SERVICE OPERATIONS - UK

Reporting to the Director of Customer Service - Europe, you will lead our UK Customer Service operations, including Mail Operations, Order and Payment Processing, Product Returns and the Inquiry Phone Centre. A strong leader with service quality vision, you will motivate a team of over 70 Customer Service professionals in delivering excellent standards of service to our UK customer base. You will work cross-functionally to support and influence Marketing, Fulfilment and Information Systems.

You bring your past successes in managing high volume service and processing operations, ideally in a direct marketing or mail order environment. In addition, you must possess a solid understanding of computer and call management (ACD) systems and offer strong project management and analytical skills. Ref. LH/FM/1294.

If you can meet these criteria and perform well in a demanding, fast moving environment, Franklin Mint can offer you exceptional opportunities.

Applicants should write in the first instance, enclosing a full CV and details of current salary, to Lorraine Horne, Mercuri Urval Limited, Spencer House, 29 Grove Hill Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 3BN. Tel. (081) 863 8466. Fax (081) 861 1978. Please quote the relevant reference number on all correspondence.

Mercuri Urval

GENERAL SALES MANAGER

Birmingham

REHAU Limited is Europe's largest processor of uPVC parts and has a significant manufacturing and sales presence in the UK. We manufacture components for a wide range of industrial applications, providing quality products, for amongst others, window, domestic appliance, electrical, automotive and furniture industries.

We are looking for a General Sales Manager to head up our Midlands region operation.

Reporting to the UK Sales and Marketing Director the successful candidate will have full responsibility for the efficiency and profitability of the business within this region. He/she will control a team of Area Sales Managers as well as internal Sales Administrators. Control of the warehouse is also a key responsibility involving purchasing and stock control. You will be concerned with planning and budgeting and the normal disciplines of setting and meeting sales targets. In addition you will take personal charge of certain large key accounts.

The successful candidate will have had substantial industrial sales experience as well as the direct experience of managing a sales team. He/she will be able to work in a technical environment and ideally would have a degree or equivalent qualification.

A working knowledge of German is a desirable requirement as you will be involved in frequent contact with our German parent company.

We offer a competitive salary and terms and conditions of employment commensurate with this key management position.

Please write with CV and salary details to:
Mr D Burridge, Director - Personnel at REHAU Ltd,
Pegasus Court, 27 Herschel Street, Slough, Berkshire SL1 1PA.
(STRICTLY NO AGENCIES)

REHAU

MANAGEMENT CONSULTING: TEXTILES AND CLOTHING

We need experienced consultants to support the growth in our international practice in the fibre, textile and clothing industries. Our services include strategic business research and analysis, marketing, technology policy and management training.

Previous international experience in our target industries is essential, including recent in-depth exposure to one or more of the apparel, home fashions and technical textile supply chains. Fluent European languages would be a distinct advantage.

- **CONSULTANTS:** with a strong grounding in the techniques of strategic business analysis and management consulting and good project leadership and client management experience, probably gained by working for a large textile group or an international consulting firm. There are full-time opportunities at all levels of seniority. Relocation may not be necessary.
- **ASSOCIATE CONSULTANTS:** who wish to be on our register of independent expert consultants who are available to work on international projects as they arise. Key areas of expertise include: manufacturing, systems, logistics, technology, accounting and finance, international trade and marketing, management training and company restructuring.

Please send written applications, including a detailed CV, to Emma Howe at the address below.

David Rigby Associates
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

Peter House
St Peter's Square
Manchester M1 5AQ
Tel: 0161 236 0303
Fax: 0161 236 0310

Tetra Laval Food

NEW STRATEGIC POSITION

PACKAGING SYSTEMS TEST ENGINEER

Tetra Laval Food, part of the Tetra Laval Group specialising in supplying complete processing and packaging solutions to the food industry, are looking for an experienced Packaging Systems Test Engineer who can take the initiative working in a strategic packaging development team. The position is challenging with extensive travel and excellent career prospects as you would expect from an international group. The candidate must be able to communicate in German and be fluent in English in both written and spoken form. The position will report to the Vice President Packaging in the Business Area Convenience Food and will be based near Eindhoven in the Netherlands.

The position
The Systems Test Engineer will be responsible for:

- Validating new machine and material developments
- Specifying machine parameters
- Solving machine and material problems
- Systemising new material developments
- Visiting customers throughout Europe

The ability to understand thermoforming machine behaviour is a key requisite. Applicants must have a packaging background.

Candidates should have at least 3 years relevant experience together with the necessary qualifications and have a dynamic forward thinking approach.

Please send your C.V. together with a personal letter of application to Mr M. van den Einden, Personnel Department, P.O. Box 1, Beekakker 11, 5760 AA Bakel, The Netherlands.

Production Director

M D DESIGNATE

£35,000 + bonus + car + benefits — Cheshire

Our client is a profitable and expanding light engineering company within a major plc, manufacturing a diversified range of quality products and components for a wide customer base.

The current turnover is £4 million and the company has a continuing commitment to new product development, quality, selective capital investment, improvement in its manufacturing efficiency and quick response to customer demand and market trends.

Responsibility is for all aspects of production from receipt of order to despatch. You should have a strong production engineering background, and 'hands on' line management experience with a unionised labour force in a flexible fast moving engineering environment using modern production methods.

Educated to degree level or equivalent, it is essential you have the ability to motivate at all levels by hard work, personal commitment and good communication skills.

This is an excellent opportunity to join a well established group, with the right candidate capable of progressing to the MD position within two years.

To apply, please write with full personal and career details to: Mike Hunter, MSL Advertising Services Limited, Ebor Court, Westgate, Leeds LS1 4ND.

MSL Advertising

BBA

BRITISH BANKERS' ASSOCIATION
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

The British Bankers' Association, which is the leading voice of the banking and financial services industry in the UK, represents its members on a broad range of issues.

We have a vacancy at Assistant Director level. The successful candidate will be involved in addressing current issues affecting the banks and contributing positively to policy making and the coordination of the banks' relations with outside bodies. The work will entail thorough research and an analytical approach and an important factor for any candidate will be an ability to take forward complex technical or policy issues.

The Association is going through a period of change and development. In particular there is a need to position the organisation to respond more effectively to the changing market place for financial services. The key attributes required are intellect, flexibility and drive. Experience of the financial services industry would be useful but not essential as there will be considerable opportunities to develop experience across a broad base including dealing with government departments and institutions within the European community.

Competitive salary offered around £35,000 - £40,000 depending on experience, with a number of other benefits.

Applicants should write, with their CV and details of current salary, to Michael Evans, Director, Administration, 10 Lombard Street, London EC3V 9EL quoting reference ST12.94.

CAREER SERVICES

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Our client, a highly successful, fast expanding customer service organisation concerned with the processing of high volume customer transactions, is currently seeking a first rate.

FINANCE MANAGER

c£45k + Benefits — Near Edinburgh

The following key requirements have been identified as essential in order to succeed in this challenging role:

- You will be professionally qualified with a number of years experience at a senior level within a large and dynamic organisation.
- With a proven track record you will be able to demonstrate the technical and managerial flair to run a busy finance department and all of its operational, development and control functions.
- You will be extremely flexible and energetic with the ability to work under pressure in a dynamic but exciting environment.

In addition to a highly attractive salary, a comprehensive package will be offered.

To apply, please write in the strictest confidence, enclosing your CV stating current salary, to:

Craig Paterson, Managing Director
Melville Craig Executive Resourcing
26 York Place, Edinburgh EH1 3EP Ref CP

MELVILLE CRAIG GROUP

SALES CONSULTANTS
OTE £25/£50K

We are a national group and market leaders in our field. During the last 22 years we have built an unrivalled reputation for reliability and performance.

We require specialist Sales Consultants, 30/55 years of age, who need to earn a minimum of £25K p.a. and would relish the opportunity to join our top achievers earning around £50K p.a. Our consultants work continuously with selected Estate Agents, Medical Centres, Schools, Colleges and Golf Courses for 2/3 weeks at a time.

Our open-ended commission scheme has excellent bonus features and is available on an equal opportunity basis. Sales professionals of integrity and ability should ring:-

NORMAN HAMPEL 0253 783234 (24 HOURS).

ACCOUNTANT Senior professional required to advise small to medium sized businesses. C.V. to K Sissons FCA A.I.M.S. Partnership plc, 24 Red Lion St. London WC1R 4QA.

ESCORE MANGMENT consultnt. Gained £28k 1st yr. Quote 87/80. Tel 071 839 0886.

Career Development Consultant

Oswald Headway have more than 40 years' experience of helping ambitious, senior men and women fulfil their career potential, often when they are facing redundancy. We are now looking for a Senior Manager to sell bespoke outplacement services - primarily to private clients.

You need proven ability to sell in this market, excellent interpersonal skills and you must have a good industrial or commercial career record. A degree-level education and the maturity to be a credible career consultant are also essential.

This is an equal opportunities appointment, so we want to hear from both women and men who fit these requirements. Please write, explaining how you meet the criteria and enclosing your CV and details of current earnings, to: Brian Wardlaw, Managing Director, Oswald Headway, 30/37 Fitzroy Street, London W1P 5AF. Closing date: 10th January 1995.

GRADUATE TRAINEE

Balmoral Scanomat is a progressive company marketing high quality beverage systems. Due to continued expansion we now have a genuine opportunity for a commercially orientated graduate (21-25) to join our team.

Write or fax: F Franchino,
Balmoral Scanomat,
Mallard Close,
Earls Barton, NN6 0JF.
Fax 0604 811885

DIRECTORS SEEKING CAREER PROGRESS?

Europe's leading career management and outplacement consultancy, InterExec, has nearly 20 years' experience of career development for senior executives and many of Britain's largest companies.

Accessing over 6,000 unadvertised vacancies a year, mostly at £40 – 150,000 p.a. InterExec provides clients with vital market intelligence and its subsidiary, InterMex, makes personal recommendations from its candidate bank, without charge, to an extensive network of contacts.

CDOA

INTEREXEC

Call Keith Mitchell on 0171 930 5041, 19 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0ES
or Nicki Payne on 01703 351135, 1 Grosvenor Square, Southampton SO15 2SB.
or Sandra Costello on 0131 225 8414, 63 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2JG

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TO ADVERTISE CALL: 071 481 4481

EXECUTIVE OPPORTUNITIES

FAX: 071 782 7107

BEILSTEIN INFORMATION

International Information Provider

Sales Manager, UK & Scandinavia

C.£30,000 + Commission + Bonus + Car **United Kingdom**

Challenging position for information professional with strong sales experience.

Beilstein Information Systems holds a pre-eminent position in its marketplace and an outstanding worldwide reputation as a publisher of chemical information databases, software systems and hard copy. In order to service an increasing Client base it is now seeking an outstanding sales professional to expand operations in the UK and Scandinavia.

Your challenge and mission is to intensify the contact with its customers in research and information centres, to satisfy existing needs and identify and secure new markets in this rapidly evolving arena.

Educated to at least degree level, you will be able to demonstrate a successful record in high-level sales, preferably in the information industry. A knowledge of or interest in the chemical or pharmaceutical sectors would be desirable, but proven business acumen and the authority and competence to carry out negotiations at the highest level will be prerequisites.

The position offers a generous incentive programme and the opportunity to join a dynamic corporation in the next stage of its development.

Please send full CV, stating salary, Ref S5316 to:

tfpl

André Morris
TFPL Ltd
17 - 18 Britton Street
London
EC1M 5NQ

OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHANNEL SALES SPECIALISTS

THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT RANK XEROX IS ONE OF THE MOST HIGHLY RESPECTED COMPANIES IN THE OFFICE PRODUCTS MARKET. TRADITIONALLY THEY HAVE LED THE FIELD IN THE SALE OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES TO END USERS AND MAJOR CORPORATES. DUE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW MULTIFUNCTION DEVICES AND TECHNICALLY ADVANCED PERIPHERALS IT'S FUTURE DIRECTION REQUIRES SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION OF CURRENT INDIRECT CHANNELS. ACCORDINGLY RANK XEROX NOW SEEK EXPERIENCED CHANNEL SALES PEOPLE.

DEALER ACCOUNT MANAGERS

NORTH, MIDLANDS & SOUTH WEST

EXCEPTIONAL PACKAGE + CAR

Reporting to the Channel Operations Manager you will be responsible for building and developing key distributor, dealer and VAR accounts in your territory. As an instrumental manager of these accounts you will provide commercial sales and marketing support to ensure the successful launch of new products and the achievement of realistic revenue goals. To qualify for these positions you will have 3-5 years channel sales experience and must be able to demonstrate a successful track record in targeting and developing named re-seller accounts in the IT/high tech sector.

DEALER SUPPORT EXECUTIVES

NORTH OR SOUTH

£18,000-£25,000 + CAR

FULL OR PART TIME

Working closely with the Dealer Account Managers you will ensure re-sellers focus on and are capable of selling Rank Xerox products and solutions. You will have daily contact with customers in the field and will be responsible for the design and delivery of sales, marketing and training initiatives to build The Document Company's position as a leader in the market.
Candidates with 2-5 years sales, marketing or training experience in the IT/high tech market would be preferred. However, given the flexible nature of the roles, individuals looking for part time hours or job sharing opportunities would be seriously considered.

CORPORATE ACCOUNT SPECIALIST

NORTH/SCOTLAND & MIDLANDS

c£35,000-c£40,000 + CAR

Reporting to the Channel Operations manager this key individual will have responsibility for targeting major corporate accounts and working with selected re-sellers on negotiation and fulfilment of large, solution orientated contracts.
You will ensure maximum penetration of new and existing accounts, promoting the Rank Xerox brand and will monitor, control and report business progress both internally at Rank Xerox and externally to your chosen re-sellers.
Ideally you will have at least 3 years direct sales experience in the PC/office automation environment. You must be able to demonstrate a successful track record of new business development and account management and possess the character and personality to manage tasks through others.

In all cases we are looking for individuals with exceptional interpersonal and communication skills who can demonstrate a clear understanding of commercial issues and opportunities.

To express your interest in any of these positions please write enclosing your curriculum vitae to our advising consultants – Andrew Bailey or William Barribal at Michael Page Sales & Marketing, Windsor Bridge House, 1 Brocas Street, Eton, Berkshire, SL4 6BW, Fax 01753 830889.

THE DOCUMENT COMPANY
RANK XEROX

We only discriminate on ability

Michael Page Sales & Marketing

BBC WORLDSERVICE

Editor *BBC Monitoring*

BBC Monitoring is Britain's national agency for the collection and dissemination of information and comment on political and economic developments throughout the world as transmitted by foreign broadcasting organisations and news agencies.

Editor Monitoring is responsible to the General Manager for all aspects of the journalistic operation involving some 350 staff. The job covers establishing editorial policy in line with business needs and meeting diverse and often conflicting customer requirements efficiently and effectively. The job holder will be responsible for managing an on-going process of change as well as implementing recommendations arising out of a recent Foreign and Commonwealth Office led Review of Monitoring.

You must have substantial editorial experience at a senior level with a proven track record of managing people, resources and implementing change. You must also have the ability to negotiate enabling agreements with key customers, both internal and external. You will need to demonstrate that you have the diplomatic and interpersonal skills necessary to implement the required changes to work practices, staff skills and attitudes. You will be expected to acquire an understanding of BBC Monitoring's business needs quickly. You will be the deputy to the General Manager and overseas travel is required.

Salary £50 – £55k package, including company car and private health insurance. Relocation expenses will be considered. Based Reading, Berkshire.

For further information and an application form contact (quote ref. 17499/SM) Charlotte Dodd, BBC Monitoring, Caversham Park, Reading, Berkshire RG4 8TZ. Tel: 01734 469347.

Application forms to be returned by January 12th.

Interviews will be held on 9 February 1995.

WORKING FOR EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

Road Directorate Denmark Ministry of Transport

Engineers for overseas assignments

The Danish Road Directorate seeks highway engineers for overseas assignments in South America, Asia or Eastern Europe.

For ongoing and up-coming projects we seek engineers within the following fields:

- Pavement Management System
- Human Resource Development
- Construction Supervision
- Transport Economy
- Highway Engineering.

Good working knowledge of either Spanish or English required.

Engineers with overseas experience and at least five years of professional experience will be preferred.

Please forward detailed CV to:

The Danish Road Directorate
International Department
Niels Juels Gade 13
DK-1020 Copenhagen K, Denmark
Fax +45 33 32 21 07

The Danish Road Directorate has currently overseas projects in Asia, Eastern Europe and South America within the transport sector. For the last twelve years The Danish Road Directorate has carried out overseas projects in more than 25 countries all over the world.

GRANTS of DALVEY

PRODUCT DESIGNER

Grants of Dalvey is a young and expanding award winning Company based near Inverness. We manufacture unique high quality gifts and accessories such as the Dalvey Telescopic Cup and the Dalvey Voyager Clock, designed in stainless steel, selling worldwide to corporate mail order and retail markets.

The post of Product Designer is a new one. It is a stimulating challenge involving taking a product from concept to production, encompassing sourcing of raw materials and brought in components, negotiating and liaising with suppliers, travelling and some general market research.

We are looking for someone who will co-ordinate and develop original ideas and have an interest in historical design, particularly of classic British products.

Candidates, who should have a proven experience, will need to be computer-literate and combine familiarity with manufacturing process with an appreciation of sound commercial principles.

The Product Designer will report directly to the Managing Director. The post will be attractively remunerated and offers an excellent career opportunity.

Applications are invited in writing to Sir Patrick Grant of Dalvey Bt. LLB, Grants of Dalvey, Alness, Ross-shire, IV17 0XT.

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MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Computing power, marketing strength
Circa £32k + car + benefits

A wholly owned but autonomous subsidiary within Mitsubishi Electric, Apricot Computers Limited designs and manufactures IBM compatible PCs, file servers and workstations. Only one thing compares with the power of our products - and that's our marketing strength. Together, they've positioned us as a market leader in the UK. Together they promise much for the future. And together they add up to this exciting marketing challenge.

Taking a pivotal role within an innovative and market driven organisation, you'll spearhead all central marketing communications activities. Managing a professional team and its budget, this is a significant challenge where results will be expected - so we'll give you full responsibility for all aspects of this work, from selection of agencies and consultants through to the design and implementation of marketing campaigns (including product launches and exhibitions). You'll also act as a frontline media spokesperson, so we'll be looking for a talented marketeer who's equally at home in the hot seat and the spotlight.

A strong communicator, you should be a graduate with at least 5 years' marketing experience in a similarly fast growing and rapidly changing business - preferably within the IT industry. You must also possess the skills and credibility to lead a dedicated team and contribute to corporate marketing strategy - so we'll be looking for a proven track record of management, both operational and strategic.

Reporting to the Group Marketing Director, and arising through a mix of growth and internal promotion, this role carries outstanding potential and benefits.

If you believe you have the right mix of skills, please send your full CV to Cliff Powell, Personnel Manager, Apricot Computers Limited, 3500 Parkside, Birmingham Business Park, Birmingham B37 7YS, or E-Mail direct on cliffp@apricot.co.uk.

apricot — MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC

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Sales Director

Packaging/Carton - Package ..60K + Car, Board Potential

We are a well respected independent London based photographic and reprographic company utilising the very latest electronic equipment including Quantel Graphic Paintbox and Silicon Graphics. We have produced memorable work of the highest quality for a wide range of existing clients.

You are a dynamic determined person with outstanding qualities to bring to an equally dynamic determined young team. You recognise good quality work and have the ability to pass on that knowledge to existing and prospective clients. You will be expected to generate £450K-£500K of new business within the first 12 months. Your strategic excellence and your relevant skills will have a major impact on our firm. We aim to reward the right candidate well, and to offer an interesting future career.

To find out more send your C.V. to Box No 2634

SKY

PROJECT MANAGER - ENGINEERING

Sky Television, the leading pay-television broadcaster in the UK and Republic of Ireland, is currently seeking a Project Manager for the Engineering and Services Department.

The successful candidate will have extensive satellite television experience including a wide knowledge of Conditional Access systems and will have been previously involved in the management, planning & installation facilities.

Expertise in all aspects of television broadcast systems is required, along with experience in the play out of a number of programmes simultaneously involving the controlled insertion of a number of differing commercial and promotional streams.

Proficiency in the area of digital compression of commercial and programme material with storage and replay of the material from computer disc and server based technology and previous involvement in the implementation of data compression systems is essential.

If you meet the above criteria, please send your CV to; Tina Devis, Sky Television, 6 Centaurs Business Park, Grant Way, Isleworth, Middlesex, TW7 5QD.

SALES AREA MANAGERS

Schools & Colleges
OTE 35K + Car

Bromcom Computers Plc., the innovator and British manufacturer of 'ears' (Electronic Attendance Registration System) is the market leader in the field of advanced technology to schools and colleges and now wishes to fuel a business expansion programme by appointing ambitious and already achieving Sales Area Managers in the following areas:-

LONDON
MIDLANDS
SCOTLAND AND NORTHERN ENGLAND

Successful Candidates, who are unlikely to be less than 25 years of age, should be able to demonstrate excellent communication skills and an impressive track record in selling high value IT systems to Schools and Colleges, together with a driving ambition to succeed and higher than average dedication which will be needed in this challenging but highly rewarding career opportunity.

C.V. to Head of Sales Bromcom Computers Plc 417-421 Bromley Road, Downham, Bromley, Kent, BR1 4PJ.

ART DIRECTOR and DESK-TOP PUBLISHING DESIGNER

Japanese Advertising agency has vacancies for the following positions:

Art Director

To be responsible for design of advertisements and leaflets in Japanese. Knowledge and experience of design work and fluency in spoken and written Japanese essential.

Desk Top Publishing (DTP) Designer

To be responsible for preparation and formatting of all documents. knowledge and experience of DTP Designing and fluency in spoken and written Japanese is essential.

Good salary and benefits. *Reply Box No 2665*

S.H.A.P.E.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED POWERS EUROPE
located at Casteau near Mons

Seeks applicants from NATO countries for the post of Senior Translator/Interpreter, NATO Grade LI-3 in its Linguistic Services.

Ref: ST 19

The following essential qualifications are required:

- Excellent proficiency in English at the level of a well-educated native speaker.
- Very good proficiency in French.
- Relevant university degree or equivalent professional qualification in the linguistic field.
- At least 5 years related experience.
- Ability to translate from French to English.
- Ability to interpret from English to French and vice versa in all modes.
- Willingness to use ADP systems.

The candidate selected will be offered an initial 3-year contract.

Salaries are net and competitive.

Fringe benefits include: family allowances, very complete health insurance coverage, pension scheme and expatriation allowances for non residents.

Applications quoting the above title and reference should be sent with detailed CV (non registered mail) postmarked not later than 4 weeks after the date of publications of this announcement to the following address:

Chief Recruitment
SHAPE – IHSC-HRM
B-7010 SHAPE
BELGIUM

At a crossroads in your career?

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Due to expansion we require FOUR TRAINEE BRANCH MANAGERS aged 23 to 45 for the London and Kent area.

- £26,000 OTE in your first year,
- 8.30 – 4.30 Monday to Friday,
- Overseas travel,
- Full training provided.

Please send your C.V. to George Kelly LINCOLN NATIONAL, REGENT ARCADE HOUSE 19-25 ARGYLL STREET, LONDON, W1V 1AA

Consultancy: Retail Financial Services

MEAP Limited has developed a blue chip client base in the life assurance, pensions and unit trust sector of the retail financial services industry. Growth of the consultancy services area of the business presents real career opportunities for those who have broad experience in our sector, technical knowledge of the FIA/IMRO regulatory environment and a strong business view of the implications for clients. The skill set must include excellent presentation skills, leadership and business development capability, and the ability to prepare concise written material. Experience will probably have been gained in the sector, but an accountant/lawyer with client service experience would be considered. The consultant will support our business development activities and lead client consultancy projects from the front.

Please send your CV to Execution Dock, 80 Wapping High Street, London E1 9NE or call on 071-488 2575 at any time to initiate discussion.

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FLUENT Korean/English speaking graduate required to assist in Marketing Dept. Please send full CV to Box No 2636.

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX:
071 782 7107

Two Senior Professionals - International Oil Industry

This Group is active in the international petroleum industry, with well developed activities in the Middle East and extensive refining, marketing and retailing activities throughout Europe.

Strategy Analyst

Based in London and travelling in Europe and the Middle East, you will be part of a team coordinating our long term European activities and business development with the parent company in the Middle East.

You will analyse new business opportunities mainly in the Middle East, but also within Europe, and will evaluate and prepare implementation in close cooperation with the Head Office in the Middle East.

You are a business graduate with a minimum of five years' oil industry experience from both supply and marketing. In particular, you are fluent in Arabic and have excellent written and oral communication skills.

A highly competitive package together with the opportunity to develop an international career is available.

Trader and Coordinator

Based in London and travelling in the Middle East you will be part of a small team trading crude and refined oil products in bulk on behalf of a major supplier in the Middle East.

You will deal with both long term contracts and spot and, although most activities are in sales, you will also cover shortages between our own supply and the demand from our retail sales activities.

You will also coordinate the activities of the Regional Sales Office in London with the Head Office for Sales and Supply in the Middle East, through extensive contacts on a local level.

You are a business graduate with a minimum of five years' oil industry experience, mainly in trading and supply. You are fluent in Arabic and have excellent written and oral communication skills.

A highly competitive package together with an opportunity to develop an international career in trading and supply is available.

In complete confidence, please telephone or write with CV to:
John Diack, Managing Director, Simpson Crowden Consultants Limited, 97/99 Park Street, London W1Y 3HA. Telephone: 0171-629 5909.

Simpson Crowden
CONSULTANTS

Translator/English and Arabic Speech Writer

Egypt

A multi-national company based in Cairo seeks a highly talented linguist with direct operational experience in the international business arena.

The Position:
The role is dedicated to translating various documentation with a strong emphasis on developing and writing first-class speeches in both English and Arabic for the company's dynamic Managing Director.

The Candidate:
The candidate must have extensive knowledge of world economics, business trends, political movements and the interest to keep closely abreast with current affairs.

Preference will be given to those with business degrees and/or professional qualifications in translation. The ability to perform under pressure and meet deadlines is essential coupled with hard work and devotion to duty. Basic computer skills will be required for this position.

Please send full C.V. in confidence to the recruiting officer (010 20-2) 5701055/1009

For the newly founded "Stiftung Bauhaus Dessau", located in Dessau the position of

Director

is to be filled.

The "Stiftung Bauhaus Dessau" is a public law foundation with legal capacity. Its purposes are to protect the heritage of the historical Bauhaus and make it known to the public as well as to contribute to the problems and structuring of today's human environment on the basis of the ideas and approaches of the historical Bauhaus.

To achieve this, the foundation works in the fields of landscape planning, urbanism, architecture, design, visual art and theatrical art and takes responsibility for collecting, preserving, researching and presenting records of both the development and the historical influence of the Bauhaus.

The director should be a personality able to lead the Bauhaus activities creatively, represent it in public in a convincing manner and continue the work already achieved by the Bauhaus. Completed tertiary studies in the areas named above and several years of relevant professional experience in a senior position as well as scholarly and artistic achievements in these areas will be of advantage to the application.

The position is to be occupied for a period of five years; re-application is possible. The salary will correspond to grade B5 of the BBesO (Federal Payment Scales).

Applications from women will be especially welcome. Disabled people will be preferred, all other qualifications being equal.

bauhaus DESSAU

Please address your application by 28 February 1995 to the

Chairperson of the Foundation Trustees
Stiftung Bauhaus Dessau
The Minister of Culture, Mr. Karl-Heinz Reck
Tessenowstrasse 12, D-39114 Magdeburg
Germany
Telephone: +++49-391-567-3100

PRESTIGE
A Surrey Housing Agency Group

Sales Executive £17-19K

Prestige is one of the fastest growing companies in the nursing and homecare market. We are looking to recruit a Sales Executive with previous experience in the healthcare field who would work from our Surrey offices.
The successful candidate would be responsible for developing business with social services departments and hospitals along with coordinating the marketing of our regional branches.
We offer a fully expensed company car, profit share scheme and health insurance.

Send your CV to Jonathan Brace at 40 The Broadway, Cheam, Surrey, SM3 8BD.

BRANCH MANAGERS (2)

for well-established Japanese Property Company. Candidates must have proven experience at Senior Management level. Strong organisation and negotiation skills. Pro-active approach. Team Leader. Degree calibre. Fluent Japanese essential. Please send your cv in confidence to

Jane Hazael, The Tazuld Group, 3/F, Dorrien House, Frederick's Place, Old Jewry, London, EC2R 8AB.

SALES AGENTS
Required for all areas
Posted to become a major player in a highly competitive market.
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Professional sales person, self motivated, dynamic and committed. Own transport.
EXCELLENT REWARDS

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Must have sound knowledge of BS/EN/ISO 9002 and the associated EN 46000 standard.
Interested?
Send full C.V. to:
P.O. Box 515, Kidsgrove, Stoke-On-Trent, ST7 8JR.
Applications treated in strictest of confidence. Replies Guaranteed.

All Box number replies should be addressed to:

BOX No:- ....
C/o The Times Newspapers
P.O. BOX 3553,
Virginia Street,
London E1 9GA

Systems Development Opportunities

Our client has become a world leader in communications technology by providing the very highest levels and widest range of services. It is committed to using the best of leading edge technology to provide a high quality, cost effective range of products and services.

The market in which our client operates has become truly international, demanding global solutions in an increasingly competitive environment. Their determination to remain at the forefront of leading edge development and service provision has given rise to a requirement for a number of high calibre managers to be located at various sites in the South and East of England.

Programme Managers

Software Development and Systems Integration

The roles will be to establish and lead teams of highly qualified engineering professionals to deliver complex solutions on time and within budget. The positions will be strongly focused on delivery, managing all technical, financial and resourcing matters.

We wish to talk to successful managers with a background in engineering programme or project management. Educated to degree level, the emphasis will be on first class leadership skills, a strong commercial awareness and a track record of understanding requirements and delivering solutions. These attributes are likely to have been acquired in a systems house, hardware 'solutions' supplier or with a commercial software developer.

Senior Systems Designers

Exceptional Opportunities

We also wish to talk to successful Systems Designers with a view to undertaking a variety of systems design activities, ranging from overall solution design to the detailed design of software subsystems. You will need a background in major systems development and integration and a thorough understanding of the complete development life cycle. Educated to at least first degree level, you will have worked on a variety of hardware platforms from mainframes through to client/server and UNIX based systems. You will in addition have at least eight years' experience of leading design teams, using structured methodologies and understand the technical and application trends in software and systems architectures. Knowledge of systems design and modelling at detailed level and experience of database technologies, communications networks or transaction processing systems, as well as development tools, are essential requirements.

These are senior positions with a world class company offering excellent career opportunities. Competitive packages in the region of £50,000 will be payable, depending upon experience and ability and will include car, an attractive range of benefits and relocation assistance where appropriate.

If you have the technical expertise, business and leadership skills to meet the high standards required for these positions send or fax your CV, clearly indicating the post of interest to you, together with details of your current remuneration, stating how you meet the requirements for the positions to:

Bernard Grant, PK Selection,
39 Floral Street, London WC2E 9DG.
Fax: 071 240 0386.

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International Search & Selection

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PICCADILLY CIRCUS

SPORTS EQUIPMENT BUYER

This is an exciting opportunity to join one of Europe's largest sports stores. As well as our prestigious store in Piccadilly Circus we are now moving into Airport retailing with shops in both Gatwick and Heathrow.

Working out of our Piccadilly store and reporting to the Equipment Buying Controller, the successful candidate will have specific responsibility for major merchandise groups. Previous buying experience is essential preferably in the retail sports sector. Proven negotiating skills, a high level of numeracy plus the ability to react quickly to the needs of the business are all essential.

We offer an excellent package including a competitive salary, generous staff discount and contributory pension and BUPA membership.

Please reply with full c.v. to:
Sally Wilson, Personnel Controller
Lillywhites Ltd, 24-36 Regent Street, London SW1Y 4QF.

SENIOR MANAGER

Our client, a market leader in the business of oil trading and bartering, is seeking a very experienced individual to head up a brand new department with the existing East European Division. You will need to source Crude Oil and Oil Products from CIS Countries and former republics of the USSR, by establishing and expanding relations between various East European refineries, arranging processing agreements, storage, transhipment and later to concentrate on two areas of expansion - the Balkans and the two republics of Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan. The position will involve a great deal of travel between London, Alma Ata, Kiev and Minsk, and it will be a requirement that you spend part of the time in our client's Moscow office.

If you graduated more than 8 years ago and have since concentrated on developing the marketing of oil and related products within the Eastern Bloc countries and are now engaged at senior manager level within this industry, have the ability to converse and read technical documents in English, Russian and preferably Czech and possibly Serbo Croat as well, then our client would wish to hear from you. In return, you will be offered an attractive salary package with most of the usual benefits such a position would command. Please address your up-to-date c.v. with a hand-written covering letter, in the first instance, to:

Mrs Genvieve Fay, LWG Plc,
Queen Anne House, 11 The Green,
Richmond Upon Thames, Surrey, TW9 1PX.

SENIOR CONSULTANT/TEAM LEADER

European Software Services is a progressive software house with an extensive client portfolio. The continuing success of the company and its products has created an opportunity to expand the business and to evaluate new marketplaces. The successful applicant will be expected to play a major role in this expansion programme.

He/she will be expected to examine existing products and recommend and execute both technical and marketing changes as well as developing new products for clients. We are looking for a unique and dynamic individual, educated to at least degree level with a proven track record and skills in DBASE III, 4GL, INGRESS, ORACLE, Windows, TCP/IP, ACCESS, NETWORKING, RDBMS, UNIX, DOS and VMS.

We require someone with considerable experience in a wide range of disciplines and it is unlikely that anyone under 30 will have developed the hands on skills and leadership experience that we look for in senior staff. The successful candidate will be rewarded with an attractive remunerative package so if you think you have the ability to benefit from this opportunity please forward your CV to:

European Software Services,
Falcon House, 16 Fernhill Road,
Cove, Farnborough, Hants, GU14 9RX.

EXCITING INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES .....

c. £20,000 + bens.

An international firm of Loss Adjusters has two exciting career opportunities for two graduates of either Economics, Engineering or a Business degree, to work in Latin America and Miami.

Candidates should be aged between 23-25 and be reasonably fluent in Spanish and/or Portugese. The position will involve comprehensive hands-on development in the world of Loss Adjusting. Strong interpersonal and communication skills with the ability to rise to a challenging role with application and enthusiasm form the pre-requisites of these positions. Previous experience in a non-life insurance environment would be a definite advantage.

The initial appointment is for a duration of three years. If you are prepared to offer hard work and commitment in exchange for excellent career rewards with this prestigious market leader, please submit a comprehensive c.v. stating your current salary to Box No 2602, C/O The Times Newspaper, 1 Virginia St, London. E1 9GA.

Closing date: Monday 9th January, 1995.
Response to candidates selected for interview only.

CONTROLLER OF OPERATIONS

Salary £25,000 - £30,000

London's biggest most successful Comedy Club is undergoing expansion.
Applications are sought from professionals for the challenging position of overseeing the Company's operations.
This is a key role that requires an experienced, mature individual who has the ability to manage people as well as projects. You will possess the creativity to source new areas of potential as well as ensuring the best is gained from the existing initiatives.
Essential qualities include:-
* Strong business acumen. * A minimum of 3-5 years operational management experience in the food and beverage industry. * Large-scale catering experience. * A strength in targeting markets in the hospitality industry, particularly in the Inbound Australian field. * Good interpersonal skills. * Competence in Microsoft Word, Excel, Lotus 123 software.
To apply please send a full C.V. together with reference to Mr. John Davy, 49 Lavender Gardens, Battersea, SW11 1DJ.
The closing date for applications is 31st December 1994.

ART DIRECTOR and DESK-TOP PUBLISHING DESIGNER

Japanese Advertising agency has vacancies for the following positions:

Art Director

To be responsible for design of advertisements and leaflets in Japanese. Knowledge and experience of design work and fluency in spoken and written Japanese essential.

Desk Top Publishing (DTP) Designer

To be responsible for preparation and formatting of all documents. knowledge and experience of DTP Designing and fluency in spoken and written Japanese is essential.

Good salary and benefits. *Reply Box No 2665*

Prestigious Japanese Travel Company Require:-

TOUR SUPERVISOR/MANAGER

To be responsible for advising clients on holidays and tours available, escorting clients both in the U.K. and abroad and providing Japanese commentary and information.

SALES AND PROMOTIONS MANAGERS

To work within the company's marketing department to develop new holiday packages, brochures and advertisements in Japanese.

Both positions require fluent Japanese speakers & offer excellent packages.

Please send applications to
Box No 2685 .
Times Newspapers PO Box 3553
1 Virginia Street, LONDON E1 9GA.

Arabic Speaking General Manager - Automotive Company

Egypt

A successful and growing automotive company in Egypt, part of a multi-national group, requires a dynamic and experienced arabic speaking general manager to promote and consolidate all activities within the organisation.

- Reporting to the Chairman, the prime challenge for marketing and sales oriented executive, is to increase sales volume of a highly successful small car to a target of 10,000 units for 1995, add to existing service centres and spare parts units and develop new distribution networks.
- Aged 35-45 educated to degree level, preferably in a technical or accounting discipline, you will be an ambitious high achiever with a demonstrable track record of excellent management skills, financial abilities, sales and marketing performance, strategic planning and corporate development skills in the automotive business.
- Personal characteristics will include leadership qualities, coupled with drive, tenacity and an ability to motivate and inspire confidence at all levels. Exceptional personal commitment is mandatory for this high profile and rewarding position.

Please send full CV in confidence to the recruiting officer (010 20-2) 5701055/1009

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SUPER SECRETARIES

KENSINGTON Estate Agency req. 4Q ages for varied & int. roles, £13,000. 071 581 0156.

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SEC/ PA
For varied business/ domestic admin work in Notting Hill Gate. Flexible hours. Please Reply to Box No 2669 c/o Times Newspapers, PO Box 3553, 1 Virginia Street London

هكذا من الأصل

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Chief Executive
c£65,000

Gloucestershire Health is an integrated Family Health Services Authority and District Health Authority serving a population of 540,000 with a combined annual budget of £280m.

The two organisations have been joined within Gloucestershire Health for two years and our current Chief Executive, Peter Colclough, is now moving to become Chief Executive of the Plymouth and Torbay Health Commission early in the new year. We are seeking a new Chief Executive who will be able to lead the continuing development of Gloucestershire Health and continue our drive to improve the health of the people we serve and the quality of health care they receive.

The responsibilities involved demand a Board-level background of relevant experience, coupled with the vision and leadership qualities needed to deliver change in a high profile role. You should also have:

- clear strategic vision and the ability to deliver change and improvement in a complex environment
- the ability to develop alliances and relationships with a wide range of individuals and organisations inside and outside the NHS
- public presentation and other skills demanded of a high profile role in a highly visible public organisation.

For an information pack please contact Mark Godwin on 0452 300222 extension 2671.

Informal enquiries are welcome by Janet Trotter, Chair of the DHA, Chris Weaver, Chair of the FHSA, or Peter Colclough, the current post holder, on 0452 300222.

Closing date for receipt of applications is Friday, 6th January 1995.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE HEALTH

PUBLIC & HEALTHCARE

Chief Scientific Adviser
to the Government

up to £90,000 + Central London

You will be the Government's senior adviser on science and technology, attend or chair all the major government science committees and groups, and have direct access to the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster as Minister for Science. This is a highly influential role helping to formulate government science policy and operating at the heart of Government. You will be Head of the Office of Science and Technology which acts as a focus for science, engineering and technology across government departments and you will be involved in international science issues in Europe and globally.

A role that offers the opportunity to be so widely influential naturally demands exceptional professional and personal qualities.

The first requirement is for a commitment to the importance of science engineering and technology as the driving force behind the nation's wealth and quality of life, and a broad interest in science policy making. You are likely to have a distinguished record in science or engineering and be of considerable standing in the scientific or engineering community.

You will have proven managerial experience at a senior level with excellent analytical, interpersonal and representational skills and a clear understanding of the process of Government.

You will have vision, tenacity, the ability to deliver on time and to explain decisions cogently and unambiguously.

Salary will be up to £90,000. More may be available for an exceptional candidate. Appointment will be for 4-5 years initially and renewable, subject to performance.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 10th January 1995), please contact **Recruitment & Assessment Services**, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 1JB or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 or fax (0256) 846374/846660. Please quote ref: B2373.

CABINET OFFICE

An Equal Opportunity Employer

RAS

EAST MIDLANDS TRAINING AND ENTERPRISE COUNCILS' EUROPEAN FORUM

REGIONAL EUROPEAN OFFICER

The TECs' of the East Midlands are committed to working regionally with local partners to maximise the opportunities and minimise the threats from membership of the European Union for our region.

The TEC's Regional European Officer provides strategic support to the TECs on European training and enterprise issues, including the structural funds Objectives 2 and 5b, the Community Initiatives, Leonardo and Socrates and so on.

Of equal importance, the officer provides the focus for the regional coordination of the TECs' bids for ESF Objective 3 funding.

The successful candidate will have worked for some time on European issues, will have an extensive knowledge of the Union's institutions and will also be able to demonstrate experience of the management of the structural funds.

The post requires an excellent communicator, networker and team player.

The post is offered on a two year fixed term contract, with an annual salary of up to £30,000, at a flexible location - one of the East Midlands TECs.

Apply in writing with a C.V. by Wednesday 4 January 1995 to:

Lindsay Jackson, Regional European Adviser, East Midlands TECs,
Edwinstowe House, High Street, Edwinstowe, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG21 9PR

Job description and further details are available from Lindsay Jackson on 01623 825206.

Interviews will be held on 18 January 1995

The TECs' of the East Midlands are: Southern Derbyshire, North Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Greater Nottingham and North Nottinghamshire.

THE TRAFFORD PARK MANUFACTURING INSTITUTE

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THE UNIVERSITIES OF MANCHESTER AND SALFORD WITH THE OPEN UNIVERSITY

INDUSTRY'S NEEDS MET BY THE UNIVERSITIES

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Located in modern facilities in the industrial heartland of Manchester, the Institute will assist companies to rise to the challenge of continuously enhancing their competitiveness. Its output will be the provision of purpose designed programmes of education and training, with a strong element of innovation, leading edge skills and shared experience.

The essence of the role is to help industry define its needs and then to deliver relevant and innovative programmes. As Director of Education and Training you will join a small highly motivated team operating at the gateway between Industry and Higher Education.

You are likely to be an ambitious manufacturing professional who understands the vital role of science and technology in the culture of manufacturing and have experience in education and training. The person appointed will be among the candidates for the post of Chief Executive when this is considered at a later stage.

A competitive remuneration and benefits package will be negotiated in the range of £30,000 to £50,000.

Please send a comprehensive CV with a covering letter explaining your interest and suitability, to: Howgate Sable & Partners, Arkwright House, Parsonage Gardens, Manchester M3 2LF. Tel: 061-839 2000, Fax: 061-839 0064, quoting ref: S.T.1110.F.

Cert No. FS 28 912

Howgate Sable
SEARCH AND SELECTION: EXECUTIVES AND INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS

Strategic Services Department

CONSUMER AND MONEY ADVICE CENTRE

Money Adviser

£16,800 to £21,057 (inc LW) (Ref: ST/1/5100)
(dependant upon experience and qualifications).

The Consumer and Money Advice Centre is based in purpose built, air conditioned premises at 376 Walworth Road, London SE17. The Centre is well served by public transport and has access for disabled people.

This is a Charter Mark award winning service.

We need an experienced person to be responsible for the provision of money advice; including income maximisation, debt counselling, negotiation and advocacy.

Applicants should have a minimum of 3 years' advice experience and at least 1 year's full-time money advice experience in a voluntary or paid capacity.

The appointment is subject to the department's career progression scheme and offers flexible working hours. The appointment will be on a fixed term contract.

For an application form and job description, please contact: Estella Nuro on 071 525 7289 or Zeita March on 071 525 7186, or write to them at the Strategic Services Department, 27 Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB. Please quote the reference.

Closing date: 12th January 1995.

An Equal Opportunities Employer.

Applications are welcome from all Southwark residents.

As part of our Health First programme, we operate a No Smoking policy.

Southwark Council

South Durham HEALTH CARE NHS TRUST
HEALTH IN THE COMMUNITY

NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

You will have the opportunity to contribute to the development and operation of the local NHS Trust providing community and mental health services to the population of South Durham.

Living and/or working within the south of County Durham, you should be able to offer considerable commercial experience, preferably from a financial environment, combined with a commitment to local public service.

For an informal discussion contact either John Parsons, Chairman, or Peter Stewart, Chief Executive, Tel: (0388) 605811.

For an information pack please contact Rachel Thomas, Human Resource Department, Tel: (0388) 605811 ext 223.

If you are interested, and can give at least 20 days per year to the role, please send your CV to The Chairman, South Durham Health Care NHS Trust, Claimont, Princes Street, Bishop Auckland, Co Durham DL14 7RB. Closing date: 17.1.95.

A panel of the Board will select a shortlist of candidates for submission to the Regional Health Authority.

THE BRITISH LIBRARY

DIRECTOR

Research and Development Department

£31k - £47k

The British Library seeks a Director for its Research and Development Department. The Department's purpose is to further the improvement of library and information services in the UK and specifically to assist in achieving the Library's aims by keeping it in the forefront of professional and international developments.

It has wide-ranging interests which include the generation, storage, transfer and use of information. In addition to funding research and development projects, the Department administers grants to help conserve, catalogue and purchase collections of national importance. It also manages the Library's corporate research programme, its international relations and consultancy services, and special initiatives for the Department of National Heritage.

Reporting to the Chief Executive the new Director will also work closely with the Department of National Heritage in developing the new Library and Information Commission which will be set up in January 1995 to advise the Government on library and information matters.

The Director has a leading role to play within the Library and on national and international stages. Candidates will require an excellent knowledge of the UK library and information science community, highly developed analytical and communication skills, together with leadership and personnel management skills.

The salary range is £31k - £47k. The starting point will depend on experience and qualifications.

For an application form telephone: 0171-412 7331

Closing date for receipt of applications is 13 January 1995

THE BRITISH LIBRARY is an equal opportunity employer

The world's leading resource for scholarship, research and innovation

Northumberland Contracting, following recent success in Compulsory Competitive Tendering and Quality Assurance, are seeking to appoint a

General Manager

for their Transport Division.

Salary c 26K plus car, plus benefits

CATERING TRADA 328
CLEANING TRADA 321
CONTRACT SUPPORT FS 21213
TRANSPORT TRADA 254
HIGHWAYS TRADA 256
GROUNDS FS 22913

You must be an innovative, pro-active manager with the ability to operate in an entrepreneurial environment and lead the Transport Division into the year 2000. Your managerial experience must consist of mixed fleet workshops and maintenance, and leased car operations. The ability to motivate, manage and develop people is essential, as is experience of negotiation at all levels and management of turnover in excess of £5 million.

You must be educated to A level standard or equivalent, possess Associate Membership of the Institute of Road Transport Engineers and a current driving licence.

Knowledge of Compulsory Competitive Tendering and Quality Assurance Systems would be an advantage.

For an application pack contact the Personnel, Payroll and Training Section (0670 533405), Contract Support Division, quoting ref: TR2. For an informal discussion please contact Beverley Elder, Personnel, Payroll and Training Manager (0670 533440).

Closing date for applications is 9 January 1995.

Preliminary interviews for short-listed candidates will be held on 17 January followed by interview with elected members on 3 February 1995.

DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

One Year Fixed Term – Reviewable

£50, 000 plus Lease Car

The Council has recently restructured its Housing Service and we need a Director with the skills, experience and vision to lead and coordinate our decentralised housing service as we strive to improve services to tenants and to meet the challenge of CCT. Maidstone has a population of 138,000 and a housing stock of 7,500 properties.

Applicants will have attained degree standard and have a final management / professional qualification together with significant post qualification experience at a senior level in Local Government or other related area. Knowledge of Local Government Housing Finance is essential.

The post is for a fixed term of 1 year and its retention will be reviewed at that time.

Application form and details are available from the Personnel Services Manager, London House, 5-11 London Road, Maidstone, Kent ME16 8HR. Telephone (0622) 602002. Applicants wishing to discuss the appointment should contact the Chief Executive, David Makepeace on (0622) 602018.

Closing date for applications is Wednesday 4th January 1995.

Interviews will be held on 16th/17th January 1995.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
ENCOURAGEMENT OF JOB SHARING

MAIDSTONE Borough Council

THE TIMES TODAY THURSDAY DECEMBER 22 1994

NEWS

Tory support lowest ever recorded

■ The Government is more unpopular than any in polling history while Labour has achieved a record lead over the Conservatives.

In the latest MORI poll for *The Times*, Labour support has risen to 61 per cent, compared with 55 per cent last month. Backing for the Tories has fallen by two points over the past month to a new low of 22 per cent. Two-thirds of those questioned by MORI believe that Labour is ready to form the next government .....Pages 1 and 12

Bid to rekindle confidence in Britain

■ The Government is to organise an unprecedented high-profile conference early next year to rekindle public confidence in Britain's greatness. Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, will take the lead in trumpeting British strengths ..... Page 1

Air crash inquiry

Air-crash investigators began examining the wreckage of a Boeing 737 that crashed into a wood after narrowly missing a Coventry housing estate. All five crew members died .....Pages 1 and 3

Premiums may fall

Home insurance premiums are likely to fall after the Halifax, the country's largest building society, cut the cost of building-related policies ..... Pages 1 and 23

Judge criticises CSA

The troubled Child Support Agency suffered further criticism yesterday when a High Court judge questioned whether it gave enough weight to children's welfare in making its assessments ..... Page 2

Farmhouse murder

A wealthy widow found murdered in her North Yorkshire farmhouse was probably killed for the contents of her handbag, police said ..... Page 5

Diploma shelved

Plans for a new school-leavers' qualification, hailed by ministers as a "passport to the world of work" just seven months ago, has been quietly shelved ..... Page 5

Air travel disruption

Travellers to Spain could have their plans ruined by a pilots' strike over Christmas. Travellers to Greece and France may also face delays ..... Page 6

Exodus from Grozny

A human tragedy was unfolding in the breakaway republic of Chechenia as thousands of refugees fled fighting around Grozny, the capital ..... Page 7

Ceasefire hopes

UN officials scrambled to capitalize on the Bosnia-wide ceasefire brokered by Jimmy Carter as observers questioned the price paid to bring the rebels back to the negotiating table ..... Page 8

Berlusconi pledge

Silvio Berlusconi prolonged the agony of the demise of his Government yesterday, telling parliament that Italy faces an early general election if MPs vote him out of office ..... Page 9

Guard for Gingrich

Newt Gingrich, the outspoken and highly controversial Republican, has received several death threats and is to be given unprecedented security after he becomes Speaker of the House ..... Page 30

£1.2bn fraud fines

The European Commission yesterday imposed record farm fraud fines of £1.2 billion on EU member states. Britain was fined £2.5 million ..... Page 7

Winnie Mandela back

Winnie Mandela completed her rehabilitation in the eyes of black voters when she was re-elected to the national executive committee of the ANC ..... Page 7

Join the Christmas fun — or else

■ The mayor of Moscow has ordered every shopkeeper in the city to take part in Christmas celebrations by illuminating shop fronts — or to face a fine. The *Moscow Times* said of his decision: "Perhaps a lifetime of choreographed May Days and Great October Revolution anniversary parades has left a mark too deeply ingrained to be wiped away" ..... Page 7

DAVE SNOWDON



In the bleak midwinter: early morning mist blankets a Peak District valley just after dawn yesterday, the shortest day of the year

BUSINESS

Bankruptcy hearing: Robert Montague, flamboyant founder of the Tiphook container leasing group, resigned as chief executive yesterday ahead of a court hearing at which he is due to be declared bankrupt .....Page 23

Tecs: The Government has appointed receivers to take over the affairs of a Training and Enterprise Council, the first time that one of the private sector-led bodies which deliver government-funded training in Britain has gone into receivership .....Page 23

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 12.3 points to close at 3070.4. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 80.3 to 80.2 after a fall from $1.5600 to $1.5597 and from DM2.4523 to DM2.4492 ....Page 26

SPORT

Cricket: Time is running out for Philip Tufnell, England's maverick spin bowler, to reward the loyalty shown to him during a stormy career ..... Page 44

Football: The Premier League has acknowledged the need for a permanent watchdog to guard against the allegations of sleaze that have beset the game ..... Page 44

Skiing: Alberto Tomba won his fourth World Cup slalom race of the season. Sabina Panzanini completed an Italian double by winning a giant slalom ..... Page 40

Yachting: Christophe Auguin won the second leg of the BOC Challenge round-the-world race in record time despite spending two days virtually becalmed ... Page 39

FEATURES

Our woman in Paris: Joanna Pitman on how an Englishwoman became a secret correspondent for *The Times* ..... Page 10

BODY AND MIND

Step forward: Why has science paid so little attention to the human foot? ..... Page 11

BOOKS

Oxford Anglicans: The movement that transformed the Church of England ..... Page 34

TRAVEL

False savings: Travellers may find that discount holidays are not the bargain they expect ..... Page 38

ARTS

Sly and Sharon: What should have been a scorching encounter between Sylvester Stallone and Sharon Stone in *The Specialist* — a tale of lust and betrayal between the Semtex — has made a disappointing movie ..... Page 31

Moody but not magnificent: The new West End stage production of *Peter Pan* fails to ignite in spite of a strong performance from Ron Moody ..... Page 33

Barcelona sensation: The new National Theatre of Barcelona has caused a sensation: it is nothing less than a modern-day version of a classical temple ..... Page 32

THE PAPERS

Unicef estimates a need for $40 billion a year to meet its goals. US aid costs each American only 40 cents a year. It would take the heart of Scrooge to keep the pennies in our pockets — *USA Today*

Boris Yeltsin allowed himself to be persuaded that a resolute crack of the whip would solve his Chechenia problem. Not only has he raised new fears of Russian militarism in the outside world, but the assault is highly unpopular in Russia itself — *Wall Street Journal*

Jimmy Carter has used his own personal standing and negotiating skills. He has only his reputation to lose. Others have much more. It is incredible that he should have got so far — *The Washington Post*

TV LISTINGS

Preview: A troubled year for a black American college which numbers among its students Martin Luther King is charted in *Witness: The Morehouse Men* (Channel 4, 9pm) **Review:** Matthew Bond watches the death throes of BBC1's *Between the Lines* and suggests that the show was killed by an overdose of acronyms .....Page 43

COMMENT

Berlusconi at bay

Innocent or guilty, the Prime Minister has become tangled in the webs of Italy's corrupt past he was pledged to break. But his earlier failures of judgment, both personal and political, had already placed him in the dock of public opinion .....Page 13

People's foreign policy

For a Government that seems incapable of lifting its eyes beyond the next parliamentary vote, it is refreshing to see one politician raising his gaze to the horizon **Page 13**

The modern Cinderella

The story of Professor Hall's ballgown is a moral tale for the modern world. Cinderella can stick up for herself .....Page 13

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Reform of the House of Lords butters no parsnips, and it is the promise of buttered parsnips that wins elections .....Page 12

JOHN PHILLIPS

Italians should not be denied the right to judge Sgr Berlusconi in a new election. But his control of what is beamed into Italian homes must be curbed before his record is put to the vote .....Page 12

JULIAN CRITCHLEY

Does the Conservative Right want to lose the next election so as to be able to claim "I told you so" from the Opposition benches? It sounds like it .....Page 12

OBITUARIES

Dean Rusk, American Secretary of State, 1961-69; **Freddie Sales**, music hall comedian; **Ronald Ridout**, writer of English textbooks .....Page 15

LETTERS

Racial discrimination in Britain; atmosphere of hope in Northern Ireland; ballcocks and ball gowns; private patients .....Page 13



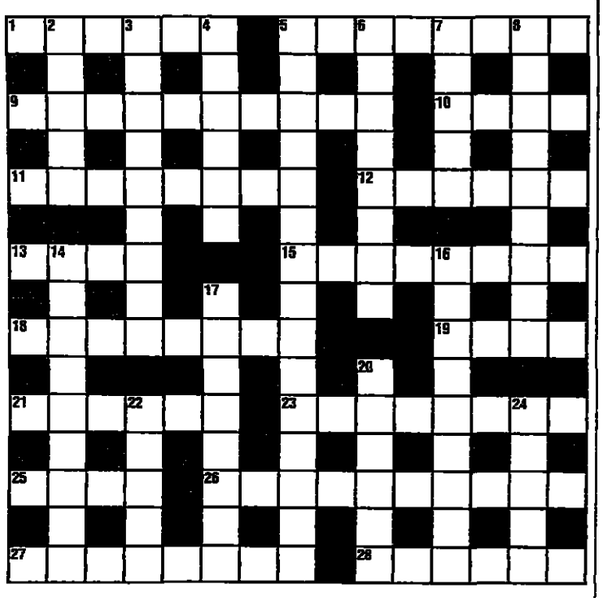
TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **THE RIGHT NOTES**
Is carol singing a dying art? Giles Coren ventures into song

■ **STAGE TO SCREEN**
The latest chapter in Hollywood's love affair with the theatre

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,732



ACROSS

1 More work? It would be ideal (6)
5 Skilfully holding back confusion in meeting (8)
9 Company director — one involved with Paris and Rome (10)
10 Job centre in Acton receiving request (4)
11 Drink produced under pressure swallowed by one's press officer (8)
12 Extreme changes involved if Maoist turns to this (6)
13 Edward has to be pulled from fast-running river (4)
15 Drawing instruments, such as rulers? (8)
18 Religious writer composed missal, in part (8)
19 Points made with needles (4)
21 African pair of black monarchs (6)
23 A unique ship? That's a joke (3-5)
25 River? Hardly! (4)
26 Daily post sorted in Irish depot (10)
27 Gunman being exposed in the Sun? (8)
28 He pictured peasants in the grass (6)

DOWN

2 Measures how long this publication is (5)
3 Depicting characters in play, or art (9)
4 Old Roman money is repeatedly turning up here in Italy (6)
5 One way to be cool if in top-class group (3,12)
6 Second drink I have makes me frisky (8)
7 This joined centre of Paris to outskirts, initially (5)
8 Ways artist breaks law in ultimate provocation (4,5)
14 Bill holds city seat (9)
16 School's head has girl brought in to face expulsion (9)
17 Tory politician runs into trouble with dailies (8)
20 Show improvement with respect to criminal record (6)
22 Unworthy of English in setback (5)
24 Pick hat up and finally leave (5)

Times Two Crossword, page 44

Solution to Puzzle No 19,731

L	I	G	H	T	H	E	A	R	T	E	D			
O		E		H		V		O		L		O		W
C	A	N	N	I	N	E	S	S		F	O	R	C	E
U		I		C		N		E		I		D		T
S	H	E	I	K	H		S	W	A	N	N	I	N	G
T		N		O			N		H					
S	P	O	K	E	N		P	O	R	T	R	A	I	T
		V		S		D		D		H		N		
P	R	E	S	S	B	O	X		S	E	L	D	O	M
E		R		M			S			A				
D	U	C	K	W	E	E	D		F	A	R	M	E	R
D		A		H		S		O		U		A		S
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E		T		E		I		R		U		R		A
		G	L	O	C	K	E	N	S	P	I	E	L	

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereffds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Tuesday: Highest day temp: Penzance, Cornwall, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Aviemore, Highland, 2C (36F); highest rainfall: Wick, Highland, and Tiree, Hebrides, 0.28in; highest sunshine: Folkestone, Kent, 6.6hr

FORECAST

☐ **General:** Scotland will have a frosty start with fog, dense in places, lingering in Clyde Valley. Becoming brighter with sunny intervals. Cloud and rain spreading to northern areas in afternoon and evening.

Northern Ireland will have a dull start with frost and fog. Becoming brighter, then clouding over later.

Many places in England and Wales will start foggy and fog may linger all day in a few areas. It should be dry, except for a few showers near the east coast. Otherwise, becoming brighter.

☐ **London, Central S England, E England, Channel Isles, S W England, S Wales, N Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, N E England, Borders, S W Scotland:** frosty start with fog in places, becoming brighter with sunny periods, frost, fog returning in evening. Winds light variable, becoming southerly. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **S E England, E Anglia:** misty, dull at first, brighter at times by day but with risk of coastal shower or two. Fog, frost returning in evening. Wind moderate northeasterly, becoming light. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **E Midlands, W Midlands, N W England, Central N England:** frost and freezing fog, lingering all day in places, elsewhere becoming brighter. Winds light, variable. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland:** frosty with fog in places to start, becoming brighter, then cloud spreading from west. Winds becoming fresh, southerly. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Moray Firth, N E Scotland, N W Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** clear and frosty at first, rain spreading from southwest. Winds becoming strong, southerly. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Outlook:** milder in north with rain at times. Southern areas staying cold.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	2.4	-	5	41	b	Liverpool	0.3	0.09	7	45	h
Anglesey	0.4	-	8	46	c	London	6.0	-	7	45	s
Aspatria	1.0	0.01	6	43	b	Lowestoft	4.0	-	3	37	b
Aviemore	0.1	0.03	2	36	sl	Manchester	0.9	0.19	5	41	r
Belfast	0.6	-	5	41	c	Margate	X	-	6	43	s
Birmingham	4.6	-	6	43	b	Minehead	0.1	0.02	8	46	c
Bognor R	5.7	-	5	41	s	Morecambe	0.3	0.20	6	43	sh
Bournem'th	5.9	-	7	45	b	Newcastle	x	-	6	43	s
Bristol	2.7	-	7	45	s	Newquay	0.5	0.05	10	50	c
Buxton	0.5	0.21	3	37	sh	Norwich	5.5	-	5	41	s
Cardiff	0.8	-	6	43	c	Nottingham	1.4	-	5	41	c
Clacton	5.7	-	5	41	s	Oxford	X	-	7	45	b
Cleethorpes	x	-	-	-	-	Penzance	1.5	0.13	11	52	r
Colwyn Bay	1.2	0.03	7	45	c	Plymouth	0.1	-	8	46	r
Cromer	5.0	-	5	41	s	Poole	3.5	-	8	46	c
Doncaster	2.9	-	7	45	b	Prestatyn	X	0.03	8	46	sh
Eastbourne	6.4	-	7	45	s	Ross-o-wye	2.8	-	7	45	b
Edinburgh	3.5	-	5	41	b	Salcombe	X	-	-	-	-
Eskdalemuir	1.4	0.02	3	37	b	Sandown	4.9	-	6	43	s
Exmouth	2.0	0.09	7	45	b	Saunton Snd	0.8	-	8	46	c
Falmouth	x	-	-	-	-	Scarboro'	5.2	-	4	39	s
Fishguard	0.4	0.02	7	45	c	Scilly Isles	X	-	-	-	-
Folkestone	6.6	-	7	45	s	Shanklin	4.8	-	7	45	s
Glasgow	2.4	0.03	6	43	b	Shrewsbury	2.7	-	7	45	b
Guernsey	1.2	0.17	9	48	b	Skegness	4.8	-	5	41	s
Hastings	6.3	-	7	45	s	Southend	3.6	-	6	43	b
Hayling I.	5.1	-	7	45	s	Southport	0.6	0.27	8	46	sh
Herne Bay	6.1	-	6	43	s	Southsea	5.2	-	7	45	s
Hove	5.7	-	7	45	s	Stornoway	3.0	0.13	4	39	sl
Hunstanton	3.9	-	5	41	b	Swanage	4.2	-	8	46	s
Ilfracombe	X	-	-	-	-	Teignmouth	X	-	-	-	-
Isle of Man	0.1	-	8	46	c	Tenby	-	-	8	46	c
Jersey	1.4	0.15	9	48	sh	Tiree	0.8	0.22	7	45	h
Kinloss	0.1	0.06	4	39	sh	Torquay	1.3	0.02	8	46	b
Leeds	2.1	-	6	43	b	Tynemouth	4.0	-	5	41	s
Lerwick	0.8	0.14	4	39	h	West-s-mare	X	-	-	-	-
Lauchars	4.4	-	4	39	s	Weymouth	1.8	-	7	45	b
Littlehmptn	5.5	-	7	45	s						

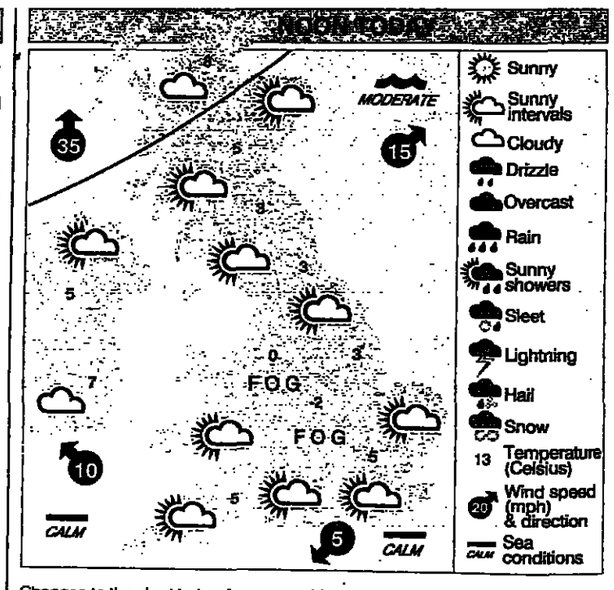
These are Tuesday's figures

ABROAD

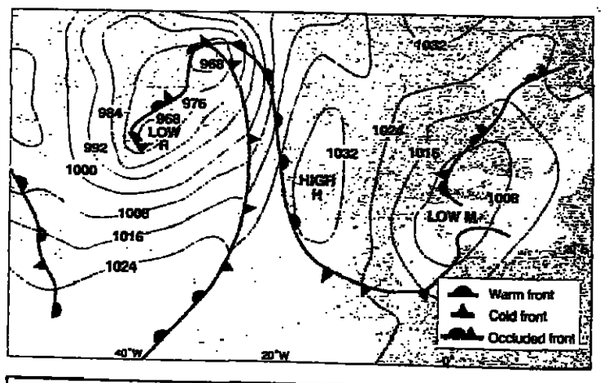
Ajaccio	14	57	s	C'phagn	4	39	c	Madrid	4	39	f
Akrotiri	14	57	s	Corfu	10	50	c	Majorca	12	54	d
Alex'dria	17	63	c	Dublin	5	41	f	Malaga	16	61	s
Algiers	12	54	r	Dubrovnik	8	46	c	Malta	12	54	c
Amst'dm	6	43	s	Faro	15	59	c	Melb'rne	17	63	r
Athens	13	55	r	Florence	7	45	c	Mexico C	19	66	s
Bahrain	21	70	f	Frankfurt	2	36	f	Miami	24	75	f
Bangkok	29	84	s	Funchal	18	64	c	Milan	6	43	c
Barbados	26	79	c	Geneva	4	39	s	Montreal	-6	21	f
Barcelona	9	48	s	Gibraltar	14	57	s	Moscow	-14	7	c
Beirut	16	61	f	Helsinki	-2	28	sn	Munich	1	34	s
Belgrade	1	34	c	Hong K	17	63	s	Nairobi	-	--	-
Berlin	3	37	c	Innsbrck	1	34	sn	Naples	12	54	s
Bermuda	18	64	r	Istanbul	5	41	c	N York	6	43	s
Biarritz	11	52	r	Jeddah	27	81	s	Nice	12	54	s
Borde'x	7	45	r	Jo'burg	27	81	s	Oslo	-4	25	sg
Brussels	5	41	c	Karachi	-	--	-	Paris	3	37	f
Budapst	-1	30	s	L Palmas	21	70	f	Peking	-3	27	s
B Aires	28	82	s	Le Touqt	4	39	f	Perth	27	81	s
Cairo	18	64	s	Lisbon	15	59	c	Prague	0	32	c
Cape Tn	23	73	c	Locarno	11	52	s	Reykjavik	6	43	c
Chicago	4	39	c	L Angels	22	72	s	Rhodes	12	54	r
Ch'church	16	61	-	Luxembg	0	32	fg	Rio de J	26	79	f
Cologne	4	39	r	Luxor	20	68	s	Riyadh	18	64	f
								Rome	10	50	c
								Salzburg	1	34	sn
								S F'isco	7	45	c
								Santiago	31	88	s
								S Paulo	24	75	c
								Seoul	3	37	s
								Sing'por	31	88	f
								St'kholm	1	34	c
								Strasb'rg	4	39	f
								Sydney	40	104	s
								Tangier	15	59	s
								Tel Aviv	16	61	f
								Tenerife	19	66	c
								Tokyo	12	54	c
								Toronto	4	39	c
								Tunis	13	55	r
								Valencia	13	55	s
								Vanc'ver	9	48	r
								Venice	6	43	f
								Vienna	-1	30	sn
								Warsaw	-5	23	sn
								Wash'ton	8	46	s
								Wel'ngton	17	63	c
								Zurich	0	32	c

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart below from noon: high H will drift eastwards with very little change; low R will drift east and start to fill; complex low M will fill slowly in situ



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3.58	6.8	4.31	6.8	Liverpool	1.19	8.7	1.37	8.9
Aberdeen	3.45	4.0	3.51	4.1	Lowestoft	-	-	11.58	2.5
Avonmouth	9.26	12.4	9.50	12.1	Margate	1.57	4.6	2.25	4.4
Belfast	1.06	3.2	1.25	3.5	Milford Haven	8.30	8.5	8.51	8.2
Cardiff	9.49	11.41	10.13	10.97	Newquay	7.22	6.6	7.46	6.4
Devonport	8.06	5.2	8.28	4.9	Oban	7.51	3.8	8.16	3.6
Dover	12.59	6.5	1.10	6.3	Penzance	7.09	5.3	7.34	4.9
Falmouth	7.36	5.0	7.59	4.7	Portland	6.46	1.9	9.15	1.7
Glasgow	3.13	4.5	3.16	5.1	Portsmouth	1.30	4.5	1.38	4.5
Harwich	1.48	3.8	2.13	3.8	Shoreham	1.13	5.9	1.24	5.9
Holyhead	11.30	5.2	12.44	5.4	Southampton	12.53	4.3	1.09	4.4
Hull	8.41	6.87	8.46	7.08	Swansea	8.40	8.7	9.00	8.5
Ilfracombe	8.11	8.89	8.25	8.40	Tees	6.09	4.9	6.18	5.1
King's Lynn	8.43	6.1	9.50	6.4	Wilton-on-Nze	1.44	4.0	2.10	3.9
Leith	5.01	5.2	5.15	5.2					

Crown copyright reserved. All tide times are GMT

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 8.04 am
Sun sets: 3.54 pm
Moon sets 10.10 am
Moon rises 8.57 pm
Last quarter December 25

London 3.54 pm to 8.05 am
Bristol 4.04 pm to 8.14 am
Edinburgh 3.40 pm to 8.43 am
Manchester 3.52 pm to 8.24 am
Penzance 4.22 pm to 8.20 am

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هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الأصل



ANATOLE KALETSKY 27

What I wrote and how my predictions turned out



BOOKS 34, 35

Another aspect of the genius of Michelangelo



SPORT 39-44

Gooch speaks out against counties' recruitment plans

GEOFF BROWN ON ALL THE NEW FILMS
Arts 31-33

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — THURSDAY DECEMBER 22 1994

Receiver appointed to run South London TEC

BY PHILIP BASSETT AND ROSS TIEMAN

THE Government has appointed receivers to take over the affairs of a training and enterprise council — the first time that one of the private sector-led bodies that deliver Government-funded training in Britain has gone into receivership.

Ministers and leaders of the 82 TECs in England and Wales, a key feature of the Government's drive to bring private sector market disciplines to bear on public funding for training, said the failure of South Thames TEC did not imply difficulties for other TECs.

Labour immediately called for the affair to be investigated by the Commons' Public Accounts Committee. Receivers from Grant Thornton, the accountant, last night arrived at the headquarters of the TEC to take over its running after being called in by the Department of Employment. It is thought to have lost more than £2 million over the last nine months.

The department said it had taken the decision because the TEC "had major financial difficulties including liabilities to the department and others which exceeded its assets." Scott Barnes and Allan Griffiths, joint administrative receivers, are believed to have been on standby for several days prior to their appointment yesterday. Staff were told of the receivership by Mr Barnes after he arrived at the TEC's offices in Great Dover Street yesterday with a team of accountants. More meetings will be held today.

Mr Barnes said: "We expect to spend the couple of days before Christmas understanding how the business works and taking control." He said he was in discussions with officials at the Department of Employment about the provision of interim funds necessary to enable the TEC to continue trading. The receivers said the department had concluded the TEC was likely to trade at a loss "for some time."

The TEC, which has about 170 employees, is a private company contracted to the department to deliver Government training programmes and business support in the high unemployment London areas of Lambeth, Southwark, Lewisham and Greenwich.

The TEC's budget this year is about £41 million from the Employment Department, plus a further £2 million from the Department of Trade. Ministers confirmed last night that its losses this year ran into millions, with prospects of the same next year. James Paice, Employment Minister, told *The Times* the main problem was "very very weak financial management", with the TEC unable to monitor payments from the department to training providers and trainees.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3070.4	(+12.3)
Yield	4.20%	
FT-SE A All share	1519.48	(+4.74)
Nikkei	19340.67	(–86.31)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3808.87	(+41.72)*
S&P Composite	461.08	(+3.98)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5¾%*	(5⅞%)
Long Bond	96⅜*	(95¹⁵⁄₁₆)
Yield	7.84%*	(7.85%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	6⅛%	(6⅛%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	103	(102¹⁵⁄₁₆)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5596*	(1.5605)
London:		
$	1.5601	(1.5601)
DM	2.4504	(2.4517)
FFr	8.4620	(8.4560)
SFr	2.0682	(2.0736)
Yen	156.31	(156.38)
£ Index	80.2	(80.3)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.5709*	(1.5701)
FFr	5.4240*	(5.4140)
SFr	1.3257*	(1.3280)
Yen	100.20*	(100.17)
$ Index	63.4	(63.5)

Tokyo close Yen 100.22

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Mar) $16.00 ($15.95)

GOLD

London close $382.20 ($381.75)

* denotes midday trading price

Montague quits Tiphook as personal bankruptcy beckons

BY JON ASHWORTH

ROBERT Montague, the flamboyant founder of the Tiphook container leasing group, resigned as chief executive yesterday before a court hearing at which he is due to be declared bankrupt. His demise follows a drawn-out battle with bankers over personal loans estimated at £30 million, and adds his name to the long list of fallen Eighties' tycoons.

Mr Montague, 46, who was paid £1.3 million to be at the helm of Tiphook and donated generously to Conservative Party funds, is expected to be declared bankrupt at Oxford County Court this morning on petition from the Royal Bank of Scotland. He wrote to fellow directors at Central Transport Rental Group (CTR), as Tiphook is now known, yesterday, informing them that he would not be defending the bankruptcy petition, and announcing his resignation.

Ian Clubb, chairman of CTR, will take on the additional role of chief executive. The company said it regretted the "personal circumstances" that had forced Mr Montague's resignation.

Mr Montague said in a statement: "All of my working life has been devoted to this company and it will be a terrible blow to leave it. Fellow shareholders will know that I was determined to stay in the bad times and help to restore the company's fortunes. It is now clear that I shall not be allowed to do so."

Mr Montague had been battling to reach an agreement with his bankers over extensive personal debts. Today's hearing relates to a writ for £2.3 million issued by Royal Bank of Scotland in September. A second bankruptcy petition, served by Barclays Bank, was due to be heard early in the new year. Mr Montague had hoped to persuade creditors to agree to an individual voluntary arrangement as an alternative to bankruptcy.

Ian Knight and Peter Welborn, of Knight, Frank & Rutley, were yesterday appointed receivers to the Montague family home, the 1,300-acre Pusey estate in Oxfordshire. They were acting on instructions from Barclays, which holds a charge over the estate in relation to an £8 million mortgage. Mr Montague bought Pusey House, a Georgian mansion, and its accompanying land, from Sir Simon Hornby, former chairman of WH Smith, in 1990, and has spent a considerable sum on renovations, including the installation of an indoor swimming pool.

Commerzbank, which reportedly has £15 million in loans outstanding with Mr Montague, is believed to have a charge over a 139ft yacht, *September Blue*, used by the Montague family but owned by a company registered in the Channel Islands. The yacht, moored in the south of France, is for sale, at $11.5 million.

The shakeout at the former Tiphook began in February, when five directors resigned and Mr Montague stepped down as chairman after announcing pre-tax losses of £180 million. He was awarded a huge share option package as an incentive to turn the company round.

The company said yesterday that he would not receive compensation for loss of office, and had lost the right to the options. He remained entitled to a payment of £250,000 relating to the sale of the core container business this year. He is likely to forfeit three million shares in CTR, valued at tens of millions of pounds at the height of the company's fortunes, but worth barely £1 million today.

Shareholders were angry that Mr Montague continued to hold a senior position at the company at a time when profits had collapsed. They were also unhappy about payments of £2.7 million made to four of the departing directors as compensation for loss of office.

Mr Montague, who is married for the third time and has six children, was one of the most flamboyant businessmen of the Eighties. He travelled by chauffeur-driven Bentley, hosted lavish champagne receptions, and used a Hawker Siddeley 125 corporate jet, leased by Tiphook and based at Oxford airport.

Shares in CTR fell 3p at 32p.

DESMOND O'NEILL



One of the most flamboyant businessmen of the Eighties, Robert Montague, with Silke Kruze, his third wife

C&L fails to delay Maxwell inquiry

BY ROBERT BRUCE

THE High Court has dismissed Coopers & Lybrand's attempt to delay the accountancy profession's investigation of its auditing of the Maxwell Group pension funds.

In a judgment handed down yesterday, Lord Justice Henry and Mr Justice Kay argue that "the question should be addressed promptly, and its resolution should not await and be dependent on the final resolution of civil proceedings, which may be some years off".

Coopers & Lybrand had argued that as they face "potential civil claims" of about £411 million, the investigation by the Joint Disciplinary Scheme (JDS), "will impose intolerable strains on the few individuals within Coopers who were actually involved in the relevant audits".

Three other firms facing investigations are waiting for the resolution of the Coopers case before deciding whether to launch legal challenges.

The judgment states that, on the basis of interviews carried out and the sifting of about 67,000 documents, the executive counsel of the JDS "would be making allegations concerning not only the competence but also the integrity of the named partners".

Coopers & Lybrand expressed its disappointment and will decide after Christmas whether to appeal.

Accountancy, page 28

Trade gap

Britain's trade deficit with countries outside the European Union narrowed in November to £361 million from £420 million in October, partly reflecting a turnround in oil trade. However, imports appear to be rising again.
Page 24

Transition

Boddington, the pub operator, is to expand further into healthcare by buying 10 nursing homes from Bupa, the private medical insurance group. The deal takes Boddingtons, best known for its brewing interests sold five years ago to Whitbread, into the top ten of Britain's nursing home groups.
Page 25, Tempus 26

Only 19 new names sign up

BY SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

ONLY 19 new names have signed up to join Lloyd's of London next year, while 2,652 names are pulling out of underwriting in the insurance market, the corporation revealed yesterday.

A further 47 existing names who opted not to underwrite in 1994 are resuming underwriting next year. Conversely, 28 new corporate members, writing on a limited liability basis, have joined for the 1995 underwriting year.

Lloyd's said yesterday that the market's total capacity for 1995 would be £10.2 billion, down from £10.9 billion in the current year. Capacity provided by individual names has shrunk from £9.3 billion in 1994 to £7.8 billion in 1995, but much of this has been offset by corporate capital members, whose contribution has increased from £1.6 billion to £2.4 billion. As a result, the individual names' contribution to the market's total has dropped from 85 per cent to 77 per cent.

A total of 3,928 names resigned from underwriting in the 1992 year of account. A further 1,750 pulled out of underwriting the next year, followed by 1,312 for the 1994 year of account. Of the 19 new names, eight are working names and the youngest is 21.

Meanwhile, two names' action groups won important court victories yesterday. More than 250 Lloyd's names on Gooda Walker syndicate 387 won £80 million in damages in a High Court ruling.

In a separate case, almost 1,000 Merrett names managed to overturn a High Court ruling that barred them from taking legal action on the ground they were too late. The names — the so-called early joiners — joined the Merrett syndicates before 1984.

Heseltine clears way for Halifax-Leeds merger

BY ANNE ASHWORTH, PERSONAL FINANCE EDITOR

MICHAEL HESELTINE, President of the Board of Trade, has given a swift go-ahead to the £90 billion merger of the Halifax and Leeds building societies, after a recommendation from Sir Bryan Carsberg, Director-General of the Office of Fair Trading (OFT).

The decision, which was welcomed by both societies, comes less than a month after the announcement of the engagement between the two Yorkshire-based mutuals.

Although the OFT denied the ruling had been made with any undue haste, or under pressure from the institutions concerned, the speed brought a protest from Jack Cunningham, Labour's trade spokesman. Derek Fatchett, Labour MP for Leeds Central, and Alice Mahon, Labour MP for Halifax, last week urged Sir Bryan to refer the merger to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on public interest and market share grounds.

Dr Cunningham expressed surprise at the timing of the statement by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), made the day after Parliament rose for its Christmas recess.

He said: "This is an astonishing way to announce a huge decision about the future of two organisations which, when merged, will have a 25 per cent share of the mortgage market and a financial relationship with 45 per cent of the households in the country. It is extraordinary, given the scale of these operations, that the OFT and the DTI were able to make up their minds so quickly. Now we will be seeking assurances on the combined societies' ability to deliver on its promises about customer service and employment."

A DTI spokesman said that the deal did not involve any significant competition or public interest concerns.

Permission must now be received from the Building Societies Commission and the members of both societies. The issue will be put to the vote in March 1995. To be passed, it needs the assent of a majority of 75 per cent of those members voting. A separate resolution for borrowers requires a simple majority of those voting. If these majorities are gained, the deal then goes forward for consideration by the commission.

Pennington, page 25

Burton grants board two million options

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

BURTON, the high street fashion group, has granted four directors more than two million share options in the past year, according to the company's annual report.

The biggest beneficiary is Andrew Higginson, the group's newly appointed finance director, who was granted 1.25 million share options at an exercise price of 56p. With the share price now at 68¼p, Mr Higginson is sitting on a notional profit of £153,000.

Stuart Rose, chief executive of Burtons, Dorothy Perkins and Evans, was granted 774,000 options, while Terry Green, chief executive of Debenhams and Top Shop/Top Man, received 250,000.

John Hoerner, the group chief executive, was granted a further 32,000 options bringing his total number to 3.5 million. However, he received a pay cut during the year. His total remuneration package, including bonus, fell 20 per cent to £597,000 from £739,000. But he could make up the difference by exercising the first tranche of his options. It becomes exercisable from Christmas Eve when he can cash in 2.27 million options from that date at an exercise price of 36.2p. At the current share price, this would give him a profit of almost £730,000.

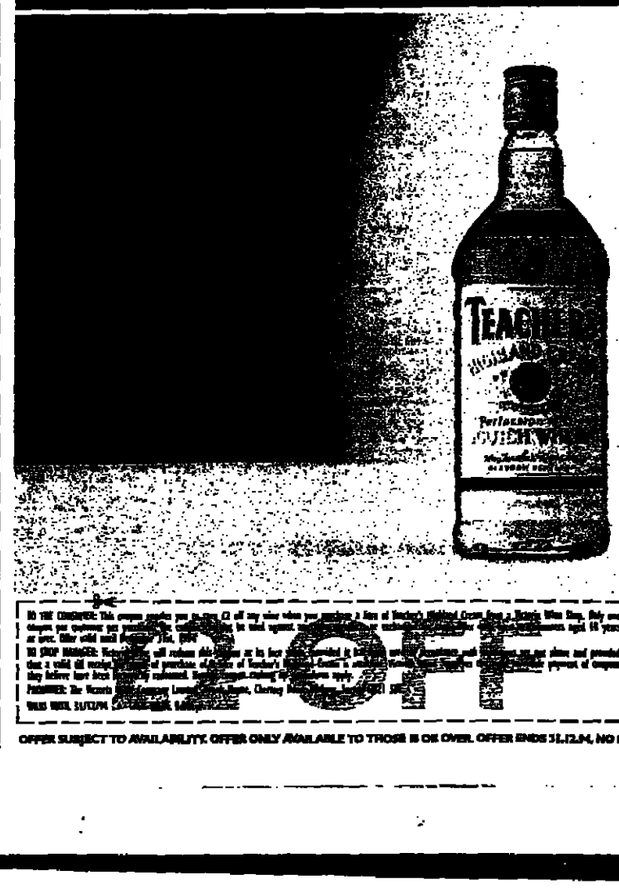
Mr Green and Mr Rose can also exercise 552,000 and 898,000 share options respectively from Christmas Eve.

Burton enjoyed a jump in pre-tax profits to £41.1 million in the year to September 3, from £16.3 million previously, helped by a large profit on property disposals.

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Trade gap outside EU narrows to £361m

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S trade deficit with countries outside the European Union narrowed in November to £361 million from £420 million in October, partly reflecting a turnround in oil trade.

Excluding oil and erratics, which gives the most accurate picture of underlying trends, the deficit shrank to £293 million from £390 million in October. This was the smallest shortfall since January 1988. Britain's trade in oil turned around from a £66 million deficit in October to a surplus of £17 million last month.

One of the most notable features of November's trade figures was that import volumes appear to have begun to recover. On a three-month to three-month comparison, export volumes grew per cent, while import volumes were up only 2 per cent.

However, Hoare Govett noted that import growth has been negative for the past six months but is now on a firmly upward path. Import volumes are now growing at their fastest rate since February.

Exports continue to grow more strongly, suggesting that the trade deficit will continue to narrow. In the latest three months, non-EU export volumes were up 7.9 per cent, compared with a year ago. Even healthier are exports to the EU, which were up 19 per cent in the third quarter, compared with a year ago.

The other positive feature of yesterday's figures was a sharp rise in the import of semi-manufactured goods, an indicator of further strong growth in manufacturing output in the months ahead, according to Jonathan Loynes, of HSBC Greenwell.

The minutes of the monthly monetary meeting on November 2 were published separately yesterday and confirmed that Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, had been close to recommending a rise in interest rates at that meeting. Rates were actually raised after the subsequent meeting on December 7.

Mr George made it clear in his testimony to the Treasury Select Committee this month, after rates had been raised, that the case had been finely balanced the previous month. Because of this, the minutes contained nothing to surprise the markets.

At the November 2 meeting, the Governor said that rates would probably need to rise before very long, but that he was inclined to wait a little to see whether there were clearer signs that the rate of expansion was easing off or how conflicting wage and price pressures developed.

The Chancellor agreed that there should be no change at that stage, citing the somewhat mixed economic indicators. He noted that manufacturing industry was doing well, but that consumers remained cautious.

In the event, rates were raised on the day after the Government's defeat over VAT on fuel. In his testimony, Mr George insisted that the rate rise was not influenced by the uncertainty engendered in the markets because of political events and that a rate rise had been on the cards anyway. Yesterday's minutes confirmed this.

TUC urges action over big rises

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

PENSION fund trustees nominated by unions were urged yesterday to take action against "excessive" executive pay rises.

In a move prompted by the 75 per cent pay rise awarded to Cedric Brown, British Gas chief executive, the Trades Union Congress yesterday contacted 1,000 pension fund trustees, pressing them to use their shareholder power to curb high levels of senior management pay.

The TUC's move is the first time it have tried to mobilise union pension trustees on a particular issue. Pension funds, with assets of more than £490 billion, are the largest single group of shareholders in UK companies and own 35 per cent of the shares on the Stock Exchange.

In a letter to all union fund trustees, John Monks TUC General Secretary, said that "in view of the increasing scandal of top executive pay awards, and the absence of any links with company performance, it is clear that pension fund trustees have to take a tougher line."

Union leaders said big companies such as ICI, BT, Prudential, London Regional Transport and the electricity supply companies had pension schemes with union trustees. They believe the call in the Government's Pensions Bill, now before Parliament, for a third of trustees to come from scheme members is likely to give unions more influence.

PETER TRIEVNOR



Abbey National's 680 branches hope to raise more than £100,000 for Childline, the charity headed by Esther Rantzen (pictured with Lord Tugendhat. Abbey National's chairman), and beat the total of £96,000 donated last year by staff and customers

Electricity regulator accused of helping Trafalgar over bid

BY ERIC REGULY

JACK CUNNINGHAM, the Shadow Trade Minister, has accused Stephen Littlechild, the electricity industry regulator, of giving helpful advice to Trafalgar House on its planned hostile takeover of Northern Electric. The accusation came after Swiss Bank Corporation, Trafalgar's adviser, admitted that Professor Littlechild said it would be easier for him to consider a bid if there were a "tangible benefit for the consumer".

The regulator made his comment last month during a private meeting with Swiss Bank representatives. Trafalgar later decided it would offer a £20 rebate to each Northern customer if it wins the company. The £1.2 billion bid, which Northern rejected as "wholly inadequate", was launched on Monday.

Dr Cunningham questioned Professor Littlechild's impartiality in a letter sent yesterday to Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade. "Is this proper conduct for the regulator?" he said. "Under which of his responsibilities does he advise companies engaged in hostile takeovers of regional electricity companies?"

Both the regulator's office and Swiss Bank admit that Professor Littlechild came up with the idea of a "tangible benefit". But they insist he never suggested what form it would take. "It would be totally wrong to say that he entered into any negotiations regarding any consumer benefit," Brian Keelan, the Swiss Bank corporate finance managing director, who attended the meeting, said. "He merely signalled that a tangible consumer benefit would be an important element."

Separately, Dr Cunningham said he would like the regulator's opinion on the proposed £20 rebate itself. "If he believes Northern Electric customers were paying too much for their electricity, why didn't he say so before?"

Dr Cunningham asked Mr Heseltine to "urgently clarify" the role of the regulator.

☐ Trafalgar House, has sold one of its remaining luxury hotels, the Stafford in London, for £16 million to a subsidiary of Daniel Thwaites, a brewery group based in the North West (Neil Bennett writes).

The disposal comes after the sale of the Dukes Hotel this year and leaves Trafalgar with The Ritz, which is now managed by the Mandarin Oriental hotel group from Hong Kong, an associate of Hongkong Land, Trafalgar's 25 per cent shareholder.

Pennington, page 25

Imro fines London Life £50,000

BY ROBERT MILLER

LONDON Life, the insurance company owned by AMP, Australia's largest insurer, was yesterday fined £50,000 by Imro, the regulator for fund management companies. The firm was also ordered to pay costs of £35,000.

Imro bought disciplinary proceedings against London Life for four breaches of its rules. The breaches, which took place between 1988 and 1990, related to compliance arrangements, accounting records, client money bank accounts and custodian agreements. The regulator said that London Life's mainstream UK life and pensions business, which has 95,000 policyholders and £2 billion of funds under management, was not involved.

A spokesman for London Life said: "The fines were for technical and historic rule breaches relating to one corporate client who is no longer with us."

The latest fine is the fourth largest levied by Imro this year. So far this year, Imro has fined nine members a total of £481,000. Since 1991, when details of its fines were first made public, the regulator has issued 28 fines totalling £2.6 million.

The largest of these was levied last year against Invesco, which had to pay £750,000, of which £150,000 related to dealings with Maxwell pensions funds. Noble Lowndes, now part of Sedgwick Noble Lowndes, was ordered to pay £740,000 last December. This was for breaches of the rules relating to churning and switching where investors were recommended to switch between products on grounds that were not justified.

Bonn official resigns in Telekom row

THE planned privatisation of Deutsche Telekom, the German state telecommunications group, has claimed another casualty, with the surprise resignation of a top official at the post ministry in Bonn (Colin Narbrough writes).

The first DM15 billion tranche of Telekom, Europe's biggest telecommunications group, to be sold off in Germany, the United States, and Britain in early 1996, will be the biggest issue of German shares.

The ministry said yesterday that Peter Bross, who headed the liberalisation and licensing division, had handed in his resignation to Wolfgang Bötsch, the Posts Minister. Herr Bross had been highly critical of the Government's plans for privatising Telekom.

The week before last, Helmut Ricke resigned from the chairmanship of Telekom.

Telekom alarm bells, page 27

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Highland lifts stake in Remy Cointreau

HIGHLAND Distilleries, the independent whisky-maker, is investing £41.9 million to lift its stake in Remy Cointreau, the leading French drinks group, from an effective 11.6 per cent to 16.1 per cent in an effort to cement the growing co-operation between the two companies. In a complex deal, Highland is buying Remy shares worth £19.4 million on the Paris bourse. It is then transferring them to Orpar, an investment joint venture that the group owns with the Heriard Dubreuil family, which controls Remy.

Separately, Highland is issuing shares worth £22.5 million to lift its stake in Orpar by 5 percentage points to 30 per cent. It is doing so by buying out a 50 per cent stake in an investment joint venture company it owns with Robertson & Baxter, the bottling company. Highland is issuing 5.4 million shares to Robertson & Baxter, which will lift the company's stake in Highland from 14.7 per cent to 18.2 per cent. The two transactions will increase Orpar's stake in Remy from 46.4 per cent to a controlling 53.7 per cent, while Highland interest in Orpar rises five points to 30 per cent. Tempus, page 26

Ladbroke post filled

LADBROKE Group, the hotels to casinos company, has completed its search for a new finance director with the appointment of Brian Wallace, currently filling the same post at Geest, the fruit and prepared food shipper. Mr Wallace, 40, replaces Jerry O'Mahoney, who died in June. He joins in April, until when David Wilson will continue as stop-gap finance director. In due course, Mr Wilson, who joined from Ernst & Young, will be appointed to a senior management position within Ladbroke. Tempus, page 26

Telegraph shares deal

THE Telegraph, publisher of *The Daily Telegraph*, revealed yesterday that Hollinger, its ultimate parent company, has agreed to buy 7 million shares, or 5.19 per cent of the company, at 450p from the Telegraph Newspaper Trust between April and November next year. The stake represents nearly all of the remaining holding of the Berry family, which originally sold the newspaper to Conrad Black, the present chairman. Shares in The Telegraph rose from 347p to 390p yesterday.

Ulster Bank buys NCB

ULSTER Bank, NatWest's Irish subsidiary yesterday announced that it had completed its long expected acquisition of NCB, a Dublin stockbroker. Ulster, the third largest bank in Ireland, will pay Ir£10 million plus a further Ir£15 million in loyalty and performance bonuses if NCB meets its profit targets over the next five years. NCB's founding chairman, Dermot Desmond owns 53 per cent of the business, one of Dublin's "Big Four" brokerages. Employees own the balance.

Low RJB application

RJB MINING, the company which has bought the English mines from British Coal, yesterday revealed a low uptake from the public for its shares. RJB said that it had received applications for only 2.67 million shares from the public against the total of 125 million shares which had previously been placed with City institutions. Only 5 per cent of the offer had been set aside for the public leaving the public offer 43 per cent subscribed. Of the company's employees, 64 per cent applied for shares. RJB said it was delighted with the response.

Call for building Bill

A GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED committee has endorsed calls for a new Construction Contracts Bill to assist a 30 per cent improvement in the efficiency of Britain's building industry. Advisers say the Bill should oblige all contractors insure against latent defects in their work, outlaw unfair contract conditions, and set a new framework for liability for shortcomings. The Bill could be placed before Parliament during the 1995-96 session after consultation on draft clauses. The committee was chaired by Sir Michael Latham.

EU inflation steady

ANNUAL inflation in the European Union was unchanged at 3 per cent in November, the lowest level since March 1987, Eurostat, the statistical service, said. France continued to have the lowest rate at 1.6 per cent. Belgium and Luxembourg had 2 per cent; Denmark 2.1; the Irish Republic 2.4; The Netherlands 2.5; Britain 2.6; and Germany 2.7. Annual inflation in Italy and Portugal was 4 per cent, while in Spain it was 4.4 and in Greece 10.6 per cent. The rates compared with 0.8 per cent in Japan and 2.7 in America.

Bids sought for pit stake

BRITISH Coal and Commercial Union are seeking offers for their 14.81 per cent interest in Australia's most productive coal mining complex, German Creek in Queensland. The complex, which involves two deep mines and an opencast operation, produced five million tonnes of high-quality coal last year. British Coal's share, held jointly with CU through Capricorn Coal Developments, amounts to 13.2 per cent. The disposal is part of the privatisation of the British state coal corporation and is being handled by Samuel Montagu.

Aerospace acquisition

AEROSPACE Engineering, the aerospace and electronic components company, is acquiring Pascall Electronics (Holdings) for a maximum consideration of £5.5 million in cash and shares. In the year to September 30, 1993, the business earned profits of £184,000 before tax on turnover of £5.3 million. Aerospace reported profits of £35,000 on turnover of £7.47 million for the six months to October 31, compared with £127,000 and £7.7 million respectively last time. The interim dividend is held at 0.25p a share.

Starmin survival plan

STARMIN, the troubled quarries company, unveiled a survival plan yesterday. The company, which announced doubled pre-tax annual losses of £23.2 million in July, is issuing new shares to raise £2.48 million and selling its Lovie operations in Scotland for £3.3 million. Lord Parkinson will be replaced as chairman by accountant Edward Weiss. Starmin will be renamed Water Hall Group. New shares are being issued at 0.75p each and an extraordinary shareholders' meeting has been convened for January 17.

WTO starts with caretaker chief

FROM SHARMILA DEVI
IN GENEVA

PETER SUTHERLAND will be the caretaker chief of the World Trade Organisation for ten weeks from its New Year's Day launch to allow time for the leading trading nations to agree to a permanent appointment of a director-general, officials said yesterday.

The European Union, America and Asia each have their favoured candidate to head the new body. The delay in selecting the director-general has proved to be an embarrassment amid the fanfare that accompanied the launch of the WTO.

Mr Sutherland, of Ireland, who is credited with guiding the Uruguay Round Accord on trade liberalisation through seven tortuous years of negotiation, has indicated that he does not want to stay in the post permanently. He has been director-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade since July 1993, after having served as a European Competition Commissioner and chairman of Allied Irish Banks.



Sutherland: guided deal

Andras Szepesi, Hungary's trade ambassador to Gatt, which will be replaced by the WTO, announced in an official statement that Mr Sutherland had agreed to stay in office until March 15 to allow for a smooth transition.

The most likely choice for the permanent job is the EU's candidate, Renato Ruggiero, a former Italian trade minister, who has 50 per cent of the votes from the 125 members of Gatt. President Clinton has signalled Washington's support for Carlos Salinas de Gortari, the former Mexican President.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.12	1.95
Austria Sch	18.23	16.73
Belgium Fr	53.44	49.14
Canada $	2.278	2.118
Cyprus CypE	0.788	0.733
Denmark Kr	10.23	9.43
Finland Mkk	8.20	7.50
France Fr	8.94	8.24
Germany Dm	2.60	2.38
Greece Dr	399.00	374.00
Hong Kong $	12.71	11.71
Ireland Pt	1.08	0.98
Italy Lira	2665.00	2510.00
Japan Yen	170.50	154.50
Malta	0.633	0.578
Netherlds Gld	2.892	2.662
Norway Kr	11.29	10.49
Portugal Esc	252.50	244.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.35
Spain Pta	214.00	200.00
Sweden Kr	12.35	11.55
Switzerland Fr	2.20	2.02
Turkey Lira	refer	57013.0
USA $	1.657	1.527

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF FRYER CONSTRUCTION LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP) AND IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the creditors of the above company, in accordance with the provisions of Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at The Bakis Victoria Hotel, Milton Street, Nottingham, NG1 3PZ on 5 January 1995 at 12.00 noon. The purposes of the meeting are to receive a statement of affairs and a report on the company from a director and if the creditors wish to do so, to nominate a liquidator and appoint a liquidation committee.
A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection at the offices of Price Waterhouse at Victoria House, 76 Milton Street, Nottingham NG1 3QY between the hours of 10.00am and 4.00pm on the two business days prior to the day of the meeting.
Dated December 1st 1994
By order of the Board
J W FRYER (DIRECTOR)
Notes
Creditors wishing to vote at this meeting must complete and lodge the enclosed form of proxy, unless they are individuals attending the meeting in person or are companies authorising a representative under the provisions of Section 375 of the Companies Act 1985. Proxies must be returned to the company at Price Waterhouse, Victoria House, 76 Milton Street, Nottingham NG1 3QY by 12.00 noon on 4 January 1995. Creditors are reminded that original and not faxed proxies are required.
All creditors who wish to vote at the meeting whether in person, by proxy or in some other way, must give details of their claim against the company in writing. Statements of claim may be sent to the address for returning proxies or brought to the meeting. Whilst there is no legal obligation on creditors to do so, it would be appreciated if claims and proxies could be returned in good time before the meeting.

Pursuant to Section 46 of the Insolvency Act 1986
WHITE HART LITHO (1984) LIMITED
REGISTERED NO 1784813
ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER, ERIC WILLIAM SHEPPARD of POPPLETON & APPLEBY, 2 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN.
DATE OF APPOINTMENT 15th December 1994
BY WHOM APPOINTED: JULIA CATHERINE NEW.
DATE OF MORTGAGE DEBENTURE: 24th April 1986
ASSETS SECURED: The Whole of the Property and Assets of the Company.
DATED THE 15th day of December 1994
E W SHEPPARD,
Administrative Receiver

BBRK Group Limited
BBRK Limited
The Bow Dock Limited
Vendetta Special Effects Limited
Ealing Studios Management Limited
Beams Lighting Limited
(All in Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named companies will be held at Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, London, EC4M 7PL on 13 January 1995 at 10.00am for the purpose of receiving a report prepared by the joint administrative receivers and if thought fit to establish a committee ("the creditors committee") in respect of any or all of the companies to exercise the functions conferred on it by or under the Insolvency Act 1986. Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged, together with any claim to be made by the creditor at the above address no later than 12 noon on 12 January 1995.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or to be represented at the meeting.
N J Vooght
for N J Vooght and C J Barlow
Joint Administrative Receivers
Dated: 12 December 1994

FIELDSON PLC: 02081097
INCLESBY (826) LIMITED: 2865156
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF THE ABOVE COMPANIES
On 12 December 1994 the above companies were placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Anthony Victor Lomas of Price Waterhouse was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.
The liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the companies must send details, in writing, of any claim against the companies to the liquidator, at No.1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL, by 18 January 1995 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The companies are able to pay all it's known creditors in full
Date 19 December 1994
AV Lomas
Liquidator

TRAVERS MORGAN LIMITED (IN ADMINSTRATION)
Registered number: 2232567
Nature of Business: CONSULTING ENGINEERS
Trade Classification: 07
Administration Order made: 15 DECEMBER 1994
John Andrew Talbot & Martin Fishman: Joint Administrators (office holder nos 2731 & 6470) of Arthur Anderson, P.O. Box 65, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT

145 OXFORD STREET LIMITED
COMPANY NUMBER 1161888.
LOW ROBERTSON & CO. LIMITED: 6816 UNITED GLASS (PENSION TRUSTEE) LIMITED: 910955, UNITED GLASS HOURLY PAID SCHEME (PENSION TRUSTEE) LIMITED 1483750, UNITED GLASS SENIOR MANAGEMENT STAFF SCHEME (PENSION TRUSTEE) LIMITED: 1471316, UNITED GLASS STAFF SCHEME (PENSION TRUSTEE) LIMITED 1429506, (ALL IN MEMBERS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION).
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF THE ABOVE NAMED COMPANIES
On 16 December 1994 the above named companies were placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Anthony Victor Lomas of Price Waterhouse was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.
The liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the creditors of each company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidator, at No.1 London Bridge London SE1 9QL by 25 January 1995 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
Each company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Date 16 December 1994
AV Lomas
Liquidator
AVL/HK/YMV0501/090LP

Translink Distribution Limited
The Insolvency Act and Rules 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 Brian J Hamblin and P R Hamblin of Pannell Kerr Forster, Pannell House, 159 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1LD give notice that on 15 December 1994 they were appointed Joint Liquidators of Translink Distribution Limited by resolutions of members and creditors.
Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before February 17 1995 to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Brian J Hamblin of Pannell House, 159 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1LD, the Joint Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Joint Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution.
Dated: 15 December 1994
P R Hamblin
Joint Liquidator

No.007773 of 1994
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF USBORNE PLC
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 5th day of December 1994 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share capital of the abovenamed Company from £12,200,000 to £5,946,149.06 AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday, 18th January 1995.
ANY CREDITOR or shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share capital should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 22nd day of December 1994
ASHURST MORRIS CRISP
Broadwalk House
5 Appold Street
London EC2A 2HA
Ref: 6AV/1450010
Tel. 071 638 1111
Solicitors for the said Company

INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106(1)
NEW ADAMS FURNISHERS LIMITED
IN CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Ian Franses, Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Ian Franses Associates, Conduit House, 24 Conduit Place, London W2 1EP was appointed Liquidator of the above-named company on the 16th December 1994.
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to Mr Ian Franses at Conduit House, 24 Conduit Place, London W2 1EP.
I Franses - Liquidator

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE No 4784 1994
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
ST PUBLICATIONS LTD
(IN LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mr John Andrew Talbot and Mr Martin Fishman, Chartered Accountants of Arthur Anderson, PO Box 65, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above named company on 7 December 1994.
Dated this 14 day of December 1994
John Talbot and Martin Fishman
Joint Liquidators

Rocket Restaurants Limited
(In Administrative Receivership)
Registered Number: 1983109
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above-named company will be held at BDO Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA on 6 January 1995 at 10.30 hrs for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receivers.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented.
Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers at BDO Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London, W1M 1DA, no later than 12.00 hrs on 5 January 1995 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986 and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
Malcolm Cohen
Joint Administrative Receiver

Communic8 Software Europe Limited
The Insolvency Act 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 26th January 1995, to send their full christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debt or claim and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Jamie Taylor of Messrs. Taylor Gotham & Fry, The Old Exchange, 234 Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2EG, the liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally, or by their Solicitors to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated 15th December 1994
Jamie Taylor - Liquidator

TRAVERS MORGAN INTERNATIONAL LIMITED (IN ADMINSTRATION)
Registered number: 1236778.
Nature of Business: CONSULTING ENGINEERS
Trade Classification: 07
Administration Order made: 16 DECEMBER 1994
John Andrew Talbot & Martin Fishman: Joint administrators (office holder nos 2731 & 6470) of Arthur Anderson, P.O. Box 65, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT

THE TIMES
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هكذا من الأصل

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☐ Rush to judgment on building societies ☐ Lloyd's shrinks again ☐ Trafalgar and the power regulator

Office of free trading

☐ THE Office of Fair Trading continues to work in mysterious ways. While it has spent the best part of a year deliberating on the complex competitive pressures within the pre-paid funerals market, it has managed to determine in less than a month that the proposed £90 billion merger between Halifax and the Leeds building societies poses no threat whatsoever to the hallowed shrines of the free market.

How reassuring that Britain's competition regulator can be so sure in its judgment, so quickly! The rocket scientists within the OFT clearly grasped the complexities of Britain's mortgage and savings market within hours of the merger being announced and have now determined that the behemoth that will emerge from the union will have as much difficulty selling its wares to the public as the two did individually.

A more pedestrian outfit may have taken longer to come to such a decision. Market shares are, after all, highly subjective things. When companies want to impress the world at large they are often puffed up like bullfrogs. But when the same companies want to dodge a regulatory cosh they suddenly shrink into insignificance.

The financial services industry is particularly prone to such subjectivivty. In the mortgage market alone, there is a bewildering choice of ways to count market share. A lender can quote his share of gross assets, of gross new lending or net new lending. As figures from Abbey National prove, such figures can fluctuate considerably depending on the products and rates a society has on offer in a given month. Bluntly, a society can massage its market share in the short term to any figure it chooses.

Then again, there are different aspects to the mortgage market. Building societies attract different types of customers than the centralised lenders and even the banks, so a regulator could argue that each should be regarded as a distinct market. If so the Halifax/Leeds merger would undoubtedly break the golden 25 per cent market share barrier that should trigger an investigation by the Monopolies and mergers Commission.

There is also a strong argument that the mortgage and savings markets are local or regional, so the concentration of Halifax and Leeds branches in their Yorkshire heartland deserves special scrutiny.

The retail financial services industry is undergoing fundamental changes with the end of the building society movement in prospect. With this merger looming, the OFT had a perfect opportunity to call for a full-scale MMC inquiry to lay out the parameters for further inevitable consolidation within the industry. Such an inquiry would not have disadvantaged either society since the merger process will take months. For whatever reason, the OFT have waved this deal through with indecent haste. That leaves the way clear for a complete free-for-all to determine the future of a key component of the British economy.

Farewell old names, hello new names

☐ THE KINDEST thing you can say about Lloyd's is that it is consolidating after years of trauma. A fall of 6 per cent in capacity for 1995 might make sense as a cautious response to the insurance cycle levelling off. But in many sectors Lloyd's does not set premium levels any more. It is merely losing its share of



markets that others reckon are still pretty healthy.

No prizes for guessing why. At 14,800, the ranks of individual underwriting names have shrunk by 15 per cent over the year and will be 44 per cent down on the 1989 peak of more than 26,000, whose experience proved so dismal. Internal names, who have suffered more than some publicity would suggest, will shrink well below 3,000, probably less than half the 1988 peak.

The switch to limited liability continues apace. In 1995, corporate underwiters will provide nearly a quarter of capacity, up from 15 per cent last year. And even the individual names will predominantly put their money in pooled unit trust type arrangements. Given the liberal new rules for corporate underwriting in 1995, growth there must be considered disappointing. This is, for better or worse, where the future of Lloyd's lies. There also lie the new problems.

Many individual names are just trading out of their losses through better years without much long-term commitment to the market. Their numbers will eventually shrink to the truly rich putting their all into niche underwriting syndicates. As limited liability underwriting and its surrogates become the norm, Lloyd's will progressively lose its key cost advantage: the lower capital employed that unlimited liability allowed.

Where are the new unique selling propositions Lloyd's will need to compete with the regular corporate insurers? Not in the retail markets, where Lloyd's is an also-ran in the direct-selling cost revolution. Nor in catastrophe insurance, where a couple of good years have already attracted a new generation of fair-weather capital. There are plenty of new insurance markets, with novel risks to match. Lloyd's will need to develop its expertise there, and recover its nerve, to become more than a relic of past glories and disasters.

Northern cheek

☐ WHAT is one to make of the decision of the electricity regulator apparently to collude with Trafalgar House in its hostile £1.2 billion takeover bid for Northern Electric? Stephen Littlechild implied on Tuesday that the purchase of Northern by AN Other regional company would cause problems by wiping out one of his bases of comparison. By contrast a buyer from outside the industry would not, which would seem to tilt the playing field in Trafalgar's favour.

Now we learn that Trafalgar directors, presumably at meetings a month ago when the company first broached with Professor Littlechild the subject of a possible bid for Northern, learnt that their path might be greased if a few bob went the way of the customer too. It is time a couple of facts were firmly stated. One, the Trafalgar bid looks increasingly like a tax-driven device by Hongkong Land, funded by funny money in the form of convertibles, to ship some assets from the colony to a safe haven ahead of 1997. So some of those pennies offered to freezing Northern customers would come courtesy of the British taxpayer.

Second, it is not up to the regulator, but the DTI and OFT to decide if the bid should go ahead, and the betting looks to favour a reference, not least on political grounds. The regulator may well have been mugged by the electricity industry during the August tariff review, but there is no reason for him to gang up with outsiders to settle the score in any forthcoming open bid season.

Outside influence

☐ THE board of Central Transport Rental (aka Tiphook) had full confidence in Robert Montague. It took personal bankruptcy petitions from clearing banks to remove the founder after a long series of financial setbacks. An American shareholder stiffened Saatchi & Saatchi's previously compliant board to ship the eponymous, impregnable Maurice. Where, pray, were the non-executive directors on their own?

Walker Greenbank in call for £16m

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

WALKER Greenbank, the wallcoverings and fabrics group, is calling on shareholders for £16.8 million to finance the £6.45 acquisition of Warner Fabrics and to help to fund the group's capital expenditure plans.

The group is paying £4.45 million in cash for Warner, which supplies furnishing fabrics to the top end of the retail trade, and assuming about £2 million of outstanding bank debt.

Shareholders are being offered one new share for every five existing shares at 90p each, a 19 per cent discount to Tuesday's closing price of 107½p. The rights issue is fully underwritten by S G Warburg.

Charles Wightman, Walker Greenbank's chief executive, said that Warner fitted perfectly with the group's existing consumer operations and he believed there was considerable scope to improve its profitability. He said the business's large design archive would also be valuable. "This is a very sweet deal," he said.

Last year, the business incurred a loss before taxation of £453,000 on sales of £8.27 million. Net assets stood at £3.69 million.

Walker Greenbank requires about £9.4 million to invest in a new distribution facility and office complex for Muraspec, its commercial wallcoverings and fabrics business, which is the largest contributor to group profits.

The group said that the strong trend seen in the first half, when underlying sales rose 17 per cent, had continued into the second half. As a result, the board forecasts pre-tax profits for the year to January 31, 1995, will exceed £8.94 million, up from £7.08 million in the previous period.

The directors intend to recommend a final dividend of 2.30p (2.10p) making a total payout of 3.60p (3.30p).

Tempus, page 26

Boddington buys ten nursing homes from Bupa

BY MARTIN WALLER AND ROBERT MILLER

BODDINGTON Group, the pub operator based in the North West, is expanding further into healthcare with the purchase of ten nursing homes from Bupa, the private medical insurance group. The deal makes Boddington, still best associated with its brewing interests sold to Whitbread five years ago, one of the ten biggest nursing home groups in Britain.

Boddington is buying Bupa Care for the Elderly for £27 million. An additional £3.7 million in the bank at the business will be refunded to the vendor. The purchase is part of a continuing retrenchment by Bupa, Britain's largest private medical insurer, which has also announced that it is closing all ten of its member service centres over the next two years.

The Bupa business being bought by Boddington has 448 registered beds, mainly in the south of England. The purchase of one of the ten is dependent on modification of an existing planning covenant, and if this is not forthcoming the home will not be bought and the purchase price will be cut by £1.45 million.

Boddington already has 18 nursing homes and 725 beds and approached Bupa in the summer. The deal, said Denis Cassidy, the chairman, will enhance earnings in the 1995-96 financial year and thereafter. The operation of nursing homes, he added, was a natural extension of the pubs and hotels that form the company's core business.

"There is a bigger older population and an undersupply in the market of places where those people can reside when they become dependent," he added. "We have bought the only other comparable group in the market, Bupa, which is why we went to see them."

As a result, he said, further big acquisitions in the nursing home area were unlikely.

Bupa is to shut all its service centres, its regional network dealing direct with its members, will affect up to 400 jobs.

JAMES MORGAN



Denis Cassidy, left, and Andrew Garety, Boddington finance director, after announcing the Bupa purchase yesterday

Tempus, page 26

'Soap wars' take toll on Hickson

BY MARTIN BARROW, CITY NEWS EDITOR

HICKSON International, the specialist chemicals company, has fallen victim to the so-called soap wars between Lever Brothers and Procter & Gamble.

Hickson said yesterday it had been told that Lever Brothers, the UK detergents subsidiary of Unilever, would not be taking any more of its soap powder accelerator through 1995. Lever said it had sufficient stocks of the accelerator after reformulating detergents and reducing its use.

Hickson said that the product contributed about £8 million a year to group profits and it was in discussions with existing and potential customers to fill capacity at its Irish PharmaChem plant.

It had secured initial offers from two companies in the past month, with contracts likely early in 1995. However, lengthy lead times meant PharmaChem was unlikely to be back in full production before next autumn.

Hickson said that group employee numbers would fall by about 200 by the end of next year as part of an on-going cost-cutting drive.

The company said it would meet profit expectations for the current year. Other group businesses continued to perform to expectations, although Hickson Kerley remained weak. Total cost of the rationalisation programme was £7.5 million, of which £3 million was charged in 1993 and £4.5 million will be set against the results for the year to December.

Coats Viyella feels effect of mild autumn

THE warm autumn weather has hit demand for knitwear and carpets at Coats Viyella, Britain's biggest textile company. But the group still expects profits for 1994 to emerge in line with City expectations (Susan Gilchrist writes).

Coats expects operating profits in the year to December 31 will be ahead of last year, but says there will be no repeat of last year's £21.2 million exceptional gain. Pre-tax profits will be in line with market forecasts which range between £150 million and £175 million. Earnings per share are expected to be well up on last year due to a lower tax charge. Yesterday the shares fell 5p to 189p.

The group has found a successor to Russell Walls, the finance director who leaves at the end of this month.

Queens Moat board called to account

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

THE board of Queens Moat Houses, the debt-laden hotels group that is in the throes of a financial restructuring, received a grilling from shareholders at yesterday's deferred annual meeting.

More than 200 shareholders who had gathered at London's Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre for what proved to be an ill-tempered affair were left no clearer as to what the future holds.

Stanley Metcalfe, non-executive chairman, told holders that their shares would not be worthless after then financial restructuring. But the feeling of many at the meeting was summed up by the investor who asked: "Is there a chance in hell we will emerge from this mire with any value?"

Mr Metcalfe said that, assuming current trading gains continued, the group would be viable and the shares would have a value, though there would be no dividend in the foreseeable future.



Andrew Coppel, chief executive, flanked by fellow directors

Mr Metcalfe said that he had hoped to complete the restructuring proposals by the summer, but the number of banks involved and the size of the debts had delayed the process. The costs of restructuring, including advice to banks, stand at £42 million.

Queens Moat sent a circular to shareholders last week, setting out proposals to convert debts into shares, to be voted on at a special meeting early in the new year.

Under the restructuring plan, existing shareholders would keep 40 per cent of the enlarged share capital, with preference shares converted into ordinary shares on enhanced terms. Queens Moat has also proposed that debenture stock terms be amended to waive existing breaches of security covenants.

Mr Metcalfe reminded investors that if the restructuring were not to proceed, insolvent liquidation could not be avoided.

Mr Metcalfe said the company was vigorously fighting the claims for unfair dismissal being pursued by former directors. He said Queens Moat would counter-claim.

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STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

City ready for Trafalgar raid on Northern shares

TRAFALGAR HOUSE is poised to step up the pressure in its £1.2 billion battle for control of Northern Electric by raiding the stock market in an attempt to pick up 10 per cent of the shares.

Word in the Square Mile last night claimed that Swiss Bank Corporation, which is advising Trafalgar, is ready to pounce, spending £130 million buying shares at £10.48 a share, equivalent to the cash alternative included in the bid terms. Brokers say that with the Northern share price closing 2p easier at £10, Trafalgar would be foolish not to take advantage of the situation.

Under Takeover Panel rules **Trafalgar**, 1p firmer at 75p, can buy up to 10 per cent of the company in the marketplace.

An opening 40-point rise on Wall Street enabled share prices on the London market to extend their traditional pre-Christmas rally.

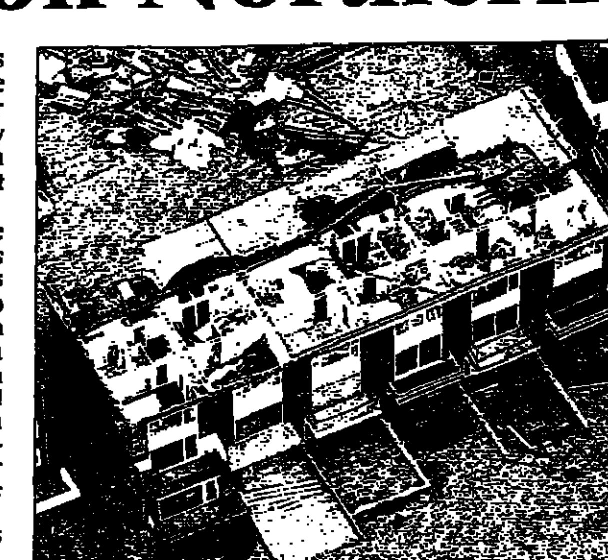
But it was a half-hearted affair with an early futures-led advance running out of steam after becoming influenced by the inevitable seasonal festivities.

But the opening rise in the Dow Jones industrial average enabled the FT-SE 100 index to move back into positive territory during the last hour of trading to close at its best of the day, up 12.3 at 3,070.4.

Trading remained thin as institutional investors began squaring up portfolios ahead of the year-end. By the close of business, only 584 million shares had changed hands.

Attention was again focused on **Glaxo** as the price responded with a jump of 23p at 685p as American buyers moved in. On Tuesday, the group announced that the US patent on Zantac, its anti-ulcer treatment, had been extended until July 1997. Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, has upgraded its recommendation in Glaxo from a hold to a buy. There was also institutional support for **Zeneca**, 12p to 899p, **Wellcome**, 10p to 706p, and **SmithKline Beecham**, 8p to 472p.

Insurance shares were hit by the news that the Halifax Building Society was cutting premiums on household insurance by an average of 20 per cent starting in the New Year. The Halifax also planned to introduce a no-claims discount. It was bad news for the insurance composites which now fear a price war. Losses were recorded in



Household insurance premium cuts damaged shares

Commercial Union, 7p to 517p, **Guardian Royal Exchange**, 3p to 175p, **General Accident**, 11p to 519p, **Royal Insurance** 9p to 279p and **Sun Alliance**, 13p to 300p.

Interest in the property sector was rekindled by reports that the Kuwait Investment Office had been offered £1.5 billion by a consortium, headed by Barings merchant bank, for its St Martins Property portfolio. Brokers took it as a sign that confidence had begun to return to the property sector. The Kuwaitis say St Martins is not for sale.

There were rises for **Hammerson**, 16p to 343p, **Slough Estates**, 11p to 226p, and **MEPC**, 2p to 380p after going ex-dividend. **British Land** also rose 16p to 376p amid growing hopes that a rescue package can be thrashed out for Stanhope Properties in which it has a 30 per cent stake.

Central Transport Rental Group, the debt-laden trailer rental group, which until recently traded under the name of Tiphook, fell 3p to 32p after Robert Montague stepped down as chief excutive. He will be replaced by Ian Clubb, who joined the company as chairman in September. Mr Montague has decided not to defend a bankruptcy petition being brought against him at a hearing tomorrow. If he is judged to be bankrupt, his service contract will be terminated immediately.

Speculative buying lifted Norcros 4p to 107p as talk of a bid from Rugby, up 2p at 122p, did the the rounds. Brokers claim that the building supplies group has looked vulnerable since last month's figures when it revealed difficulty in passing on price rises to customers because of fierce competition.

The Telegraph, publisher of *The Daily Telegraph* and *Sunday Telegraph*, rebounded 33p to 390p on learning that Conrad Black, its chief, intends to add to his 58.56 per cent stake in the company. Under an agreement with The 140 Trustee Company, trustee of the Telegraph Newspaper Trust, he is to acquire an extra 7 million shares, or 5 per cent, at prices up to 450p.

Earlier this year the Telegraph share price plummeted after he sold a parcel of 12 million shares in the market.

Shares of **Copymore**, the office equipment group, tumbled 70p to 110p after announcing that bid talks had fallen through. Copymore's shares were already 30p lower when the Stock Exchange intervened to put the stock on stand-by, with indicative prices only, ahead of the announcement.

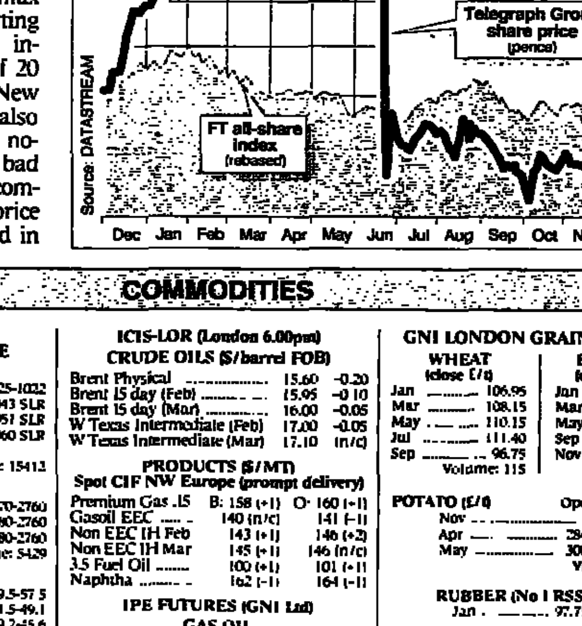
Bid talks at **Hartons**, the plastics group, have also been called off. The Dutch group Schuttersveld Holdings has bought a 32.8 per cent stake in the company owned by the Maimann family. Hartons shares were unmoved at 6½p.

Hickson International rattled the Square Mile with news of a profits warning, leaving the shares 12p lower at 114p. The soap powder wars would affect first-half profits after Lever Brothers, the US group, cut its orders for detergent additives. Lever said it already had all the additives it needed for 1995. Hickson said results for the full-year would be in line with market expectations although a further £4.5 million of rationalisation costs would have to be made.

A profits shortfall left **Victoria Carpet** 10p lower at 130p. First-half figures showed pre-tax profits down from £456,000 to £341,000.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Gilts struggled to make headway in the wake of the decision by the Federal Open Market Committee to peg interest rates. Prices were squeezed higher in thin trading with modest gains recorded by the close. In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt finished £7/32 better at £102 11/32, with just 5,000 contracts completed. At the longer end, Treasury 9 per cent 2012 rose £1/16 to £105 5/16, while in shorts Treasury 9½ per cent 1999 was a ticks firmer at £103 17/32.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Market relief at the Federal Open Market Committee decision saw shares leap ahead. At lunchtime, the Dow Jones industrial average was 41.72 points ahead at 3,808.87.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 3808.87 (+41.72)
S&P Composite 461.08 (+3.98)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 19340.67 (-66.31)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 8331.56 (+64.25)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 413.35 (+2.71)

Sydney:
AO 1905.5 (+6.9)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2086.66 (+6.73)

Singapore:
Straits 2217.48 (+34.02)

Brussels:
General 7173.24 (-1.26)

Paris:
CAC-40 1940.89 (+16.17)

Zurich:
SKA Gen 651.90 (+3.00)

London:

FT 30	2355.7 (+5.8)
FT 100	3070.4 (+12.3)
FT-SE Mid 250	3466.6 (+2.9)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1340.23 (+7.02)
FT A All-Share	1519.48 (+4.74)
FT Non Financials	1640.62 (+5.25)
FT Gold Mines	239.4 (+10.2)
FT Fixed Interest	109.72 (+0.05)
FT Govt Secs	91.94 (+0.04)
Bargains	18748
SEAQ Volume	584.9m
USM (Datastrm)	148.94 (+0.78)
US$	1.5597 (-0.0003)
German Mark	2.4492 (-0.0031)
Exchange Index	80.2 (-0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2829
£:SDR	1.0750
RPI	145.3 Nov (2.6%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Asset Mngmnt (100)	95	...
BSkyB	256½	-1
Clydeport	166	...
Euclidian (100)	97	-4
Fidelity Spec V Uts	470	+2
Finsbry Sml Cos C (100)	98	...
First Russ Fronts ($10)	620	...
Fleming Nat Res (100)	92	...
For & Col Emrg C (100)	104½	+¼
Gart Micro Ind (500)	500	+2
Hydro Intnl (80)	83	...
INVESCO Korea C	96	...
Innovative Techs (120)	123	...
Kiln Capital (100)	100	...
Leg & Gen Recvry (100)	99	...
MICE Group (3)	3¼	...
Mathsn Lloyds Inv (100)	86	...
Murray Emrg Ec (100)	92	...
RAP Group	138	...
RM (175)	205	...
Residential Prop	101	...
SeaPerfect (120)	129	...
Telewest Coms (182)	176½	-3
Wellington Under (100)	102	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Cowie n/p (190)	25	...
Division Grp n/p (100)	18	-5
Inspirations n/p (120)	15	...
MY n/p (53)	¼	...
OMI n/p (37)	2	...
Saltire n/p (12)	¼	...
Tomorrows Leis n/p (10)	½	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Wolseley	776p (+13p)
Metal Bulletin	525p (+15p)
United Friendly	455p (+10p)
Flextech	414p (+15p)
Bluebird Toys	233p (+16p)

FALLS:

Sun Alliance	300p (-13p)
Andrews Sykes	137p (-21p)
Hickson	114p (-12p)
Victoria Carpet	130p (-10p)
General Accident	519p (-11p)

Closing Prices Page 30

TEMPUS

Nursing a pint

BODDINGTON'S policy is to get out of businesses that do you harm and into healthcare. While the tide is flowing against tobacco and alcohol, Denis Cassidy, Boddington's chairman, reasons that the ageing population is enhancing prospects for nursing homes. The demographics are clear, and more nursing home places will be needed in future to cope with rising demand from those who live longer but are unable to care for themselves alone.

All this suggests the nursing home sector, badly hit by over-expansion in the 1980s and a falling property market which discouraged moves from owner-occupied accommodation to residential care, could be one of the stars of the 1990s. Boddingtons, after its 1989 departure from brewing, has positioned itself at the top end of the market and is paying a correspondingly high exit multiple. The price of Bupa's nursing homes, after allowing for certain oddities of accounting, is about 20 times this year's earnings, in line with the better quoted operators in the sector.

Boddingtons is also paying about £4 million over book value, even though cash-strapped Bupa is a keen seller. Nonetheless, the price looks fair given that the chain being bought is probably the last premium one still available. As a result, Boddingtons should see about 8 per cent of turnover and 15 per cent of profits coming from nursing homes, making it larger than the group's hotels. The shares sell on 13 times' 1994-95 earnings. While pub retailing is not the most dynamic industry, moves like the Bupa purchase suggest the company is ahead in its programme to lessen dependence on its core business.

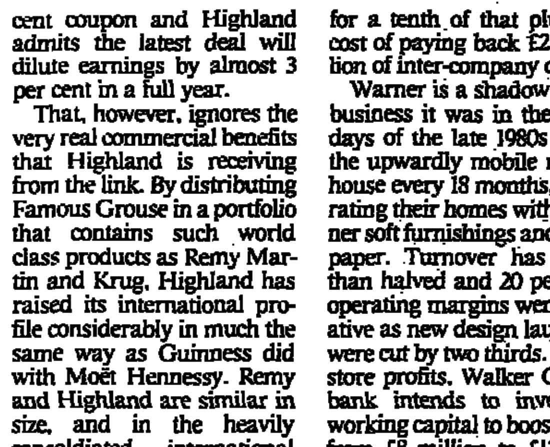
Ladbroke

THE long-awaited appointment of a new finance director at Ladbroke completes a team that faces the challenge of turning the group around and squeezing a more adequate return out of its assets. Brian Wallace, from Geest, may be a banana counter rather than a bean counter, but he comes with a sufficiently solid corporate background to satisfy investors.

In the past year, Ladbroke started a painful transition. The group has begun by disposing of almost a third of its property portfolio and buying a pair of London casinos, which should improve cash flow.

But the group still needs to sell £600 million of property to reduce borrowings. Then Texas needs radical attention, unless the group finds someone brave enough to buy a DIY chain in the current market. Ladbroke must also examine the future of the Vernons pools business, which is facing a lingering death after the launch of the National Lottery.

The most difficult issue, however, is the position of its Hilton hotels business. This badly needs a presence in America to offer global coverage. Some deal with Hilton Hotels Corporation in the US, which has put itself up for sale, may be the best solution since it would settle the long-running confusion over branding and settle the outstanding litigation between the two as well. The resolution of some of these issues would finally kick-start the share price.



Highland Distilleries

HIGHLAND denies that its acquisition of another 4.5 per cent of Remy Cointreau was intended to improve the group's defences against an unwanted bid, but it is a useful side-effect. By issuing 5.4 million shares to Robertson & Baxter, it ensures that another 3.5 per cent of its shares are in friendly hands. Meanwhile, the group's ties with Remy are growing so strong that any marauder would find it difficult and commercially damaging to pull them apart.

Highland has now invested £115 million in Remy, a substantial sum for a group its size, and in financial terms it is difficult to see what the group gets out of it. It is a minority convertible bondholder in a private company that controls Remy, and as such has very little management input into the company at all. The bonds carry a 6 per cent coupon and Highland admits the latest deal will dilute earnings by almost 3 per cent in a full year.

That, however, ignores the very real commercial benefits that Highland is receiving from the link. By distributing Famous Grouse in a portfolio that contains such world class products as Remy Martin and Krug, Highland has raised its international profile considerably in much the same way as Guinness did with Moët Hennessy. Remy and Highland are similar in size, and in the heavily consoldiated international spirits industry, it would not be a surprise to see the two companies one day get very much closer indeed.

Walker Greenbank

INVESTORS should be glad that the owner of Warner Fabrics pulled an £18 million flotation in 1989. Five years later, Walker Greenbank is buying the share capital of Warner for a tenth of that plus the cost of paying back £2.5 million of inter-company debt.

Warner is a shadow of the business it was in the glory days of the late 1980s when the upwardly mobile moved house every 18 months, decorating their homes with Warner soft furnishings and wallpaper. Turnover has more than halved and 20 per cent operating margins went negative as new design launches were cut by two thirds. To restore profits, Walker Greenbank intends to invest in working capital to boost sales from £8 million to £12 million. A bonus is an archive of fabric designs from 1870, insured for £6 million and for which Walker has paid £1.

Few will begrudge Walker funds to buy Warner but investors are also being asked to fund a £9.4 million office and distribution facility. Gearing is modest at 7 per cent and cash flow should be ample to support such expansion.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	1046-1044	Mar	1025-1022
Mar	992-990	May	1043 SLR
May	987-986	Jul	1051 SLR
Jul	994-993	Sep	1060 SLR
Sep	1003-1000		
Dec	1020 SLR		Volume: 15413

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	2880-2850	Sep	2770-2760
Mar	2855-2850	Nov	2780-2760
May	2790-2785	Jan	2780-2760
Jul	2775-2770		Volume: 5429

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	359.5-57.5
Spot: 414.5		Dec	351.5-49.1
Mar	408.0-07.0	Mar	349.2-45.6
May	402.5-01.0	May	348.2-43.6
Aug	390.5-89.0		Volume: 412

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 20

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	82.63	122.50	121.93
(+/-)	-0.36	+6.66	+1.13
Eng/Wales:	82.68	123.28	119.73
(+/-)	-0.40	+6.89	+0.98
(%)	-31.0	-45.0	-45.0
Scotland:	79.75	119.42	126.40
(+/-)	+0.57	+5.79	-1.09
(%)	-20.0	-44.0	-11.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	15.60	-0.20
Brent 15 day (Feb)	15.95	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Mar)	16.00	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	17.00	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	17.10	(n/c)

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	B:	O:
Premium Gas .15	158 (+1)	160 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	140 (n/c)	141 (+1)
Non EEC IH Feb	143 (+1)	146 (+2)
Non EEC IH Mar	145 (+1)	146 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	100 (+1)	101 (+1)
Naphtha	162 (-1)	164 (-1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)
GAS OIL

Jan	140.75-41.00	Apr	146.25-46.75
Feb	143.50-43.75	May	147.25-47.50
Mar	145.50-45.75		Vol: 11559

BRENT (6.00pm)

Feb	16.00-16.02	May	16.09-16.13
Mar	16.03-16.06	Jun	16.11-16.17
Apr	16.06-16.08		Vol: 18837

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jan	106.95	Jan	103.50
Mar	108.15	Mar	105.40
May	110.15	May	107.40
Jul	111.40	Sep	95.75
Sep	96.75	Nov	97.50
Volume: 115		Volume: 0	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	
Apr	284.0	283.6
May	300.0	302.0
		Volume: 171

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/kg)
Jan 97.75-98.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jan 95	1990	1920	1990
Feb 95	1910	1910	1960
Mar 95	1925	1840	1925
Apr 95	1860	1810	1860
Vol: 276 lots		Open Interest: 3138	

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LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) — Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2959.0-2960.0	2926.0-2928.0	3139225
Lead ($/tonne)	629.00-630.00	650.00-651.00	194450
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1096.5-1097.5	1126.0-1126.5	1082825
Tin ($/tonne)	5835.0-5840.0	5930.0-5940.0	18740
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1858.0-1959.0	1894.0-1895.0	1930475
Nickel ($/tonne)	8338.0-8340.0	8490.0-8500.0	93372

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Dom.	550	14½	33½	42½	9½	18	26½
(*554)	600	1	13	20½	46½	49½	56
Argyll	240	19½	27	31	2	4½	9½
(*257)	260	6	15	20½	9½	12	19
ASDA	60	5½	7½	9½	1	2½	4
(*65)	70	0½	3	4½	6½	8	8½
Boots	460	32	46½	52½	2	7½	14
(*469½)	500	6	22½	29½	17	24	32½
Br Airways	330	30½	41½	48	1	7	14
(*357½)	360	10½	24	30½	9½	18½	27
BP	420	16½	27½	36	6½	14	20½
(*429)	460	2	10	19	32½	37	42½
Br Steel	140	18	22	25	0½	2½	4½
(*157)	160	3½	10	13½	6½	9½	12½
C & W	360	21½	36	43	5	15½	20
(*375½)	390	6	20½	27½	19	27½	35
CU	493	29½	39	—	3	19	—
(*516½)	543	4½	15	—	29	49	—
ICI	750	27½	45½	57½	11	34	40½
(*765½)	800	6	22	35	40	64	69½
Kingfishr	420	21½	35½	41½	6	16	24½
(*432½)	460	4	16	23	29½	37½	47
Land Sec	550	40½	53½	60	1	5½	12½
(*587½)	600	8	22½	29½	16½	22	34½
M & S	390	10½	23½	29	8½	14	19½
(*391)	420	1½	10½	15½	30	32	37½
Nat West	500	22½	35	46	8½	28	32
(*511½)	550	3½	14	25	40½	59	62
Sainsbury	390	19½	32½	40½	4	11½	20½
(*403½)	420	5	18	25	19½	28½	36
Shell	650	49	58½	64½	0½	10	12
(*695½)	700	12	25	34½	12½	31	33
Smkl Bch	460	20	33	42½	7½	19	26
(*471)	500	4	15½	24½	31½	41½	47½
Storehse	200	11½	18	22	3	6½	9½
(*208½)	220	2	8	12½	13½	17	20
Trafalgar	70	5½	9	12	1½	4½	6
(*75)	80	1	4½	7½	7½	10	11½
Unilever	1100	54½	76½	90	4½	22	34½
(*1145)	1150	21½	46½	61½	21½	45½	57½
Zeneca	850	55½	71½	83	6	30	39
(*895½)	900	21	39½	55	23½	42½	51½
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
Grnd Met	390	19½	30½	37½	12½	18½	24½
(*402)	420	7	17½	24	32	36	41
Ladbroke	160	11	14	20½	4½	12	13
(*163½)	180	3	6	12	17½	24½	25
Utd Bisc	300	31½	36	40	2	9	12
(*326½)	330	11½	17½	24	12	23½	26½

December 21, 1994 Tot: 41389 Call: 24576 Put: 16813 FT-SE Call: 7497 Put: 9136
*Underlying security price.

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	450	24½	37½	—	2½	10	—
(*470)	475	9	22½	—	12	20½	—
Thames W	460	23½	39½	47½	4½	12½	23
(*476½)	500	5½	20	27	26½	33½	45
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
BAT Ind	420	32½	42	44½	6	18	22½
(*442½)	460	11	21	25½	25	40	47
BTR	280	15½	19½	25½	7	15½	18½
(*286)	300	6½	10½	16½	18	27½	30
Br Aero	409	32	44½	—	11	23½	—
(*425½)	448	13½	27	—	31½	45	—
Br Telcm	360	27	38	45	3½	7	12½
(*381)	390	9	20½	28	15½	19½	26½
Cadbury	390	36½	42	47	2½	9½	12
(*419½)	420	16½	24	30	11	23	25½
Guinness	420	34½	42½	47½	2½	9½	13
(*448½)	460	9½	19	26	17½	28½	32
GEC	260	20½	27½	31½	2	4½	9
(*279½)	280	8	15½	20	9½	12	18½
Hanson	220	16½	19½	22½	2½	6½	9½
(*232)	240	5	9	12½	11½	16	20
LASMO	140	8½	13½	17	5	8½	9
(*143)	160	1½	5½	8½	18	20½	21
Lucas	180	22½	27	31	2	5½	8
(*199)	200	9½	15	20	8½	14	16½
Pilkngtn	160	9½	14½	18½	5	6½	10
(*163½)	180	2½	6	9½	18	18½	21½
Prudential	300	25	29	33½	4½	13	15½
(*317)	330	9	13	19	18½	29½	31½
Redland	420	44	52	56	4½	14½	19½
(*456½)	460	17½	28	33	17½	34½	39½
R-Royce	160	16½	20½	24	2	5½	8
(*173½)	180	5	10	13½	10½	15½	18
Tesco	220	21½	28	29½	1½	7	9½
(*238)	240	8½	13½	17	8½	16	18½
Vodafone	200	16	22½	27	3½	7½	10
(*210½)	217	7	—	—	11½	—	—
Williams	300	26½	33½	36	2½	9½	10½
(*322½)	330	8	16	20	14½	24½	25½

FT-SE INDEX (*3065½)

	2950	3000	3050	3100	3150	3200
Calls						
Jan	152	112½	77½	48½	28½	16
Feb	178½	142½	111	82	60	40½
Mar	197	162	133	104	82	61
Apr	207	176½	149½	122½	104½	85½
Jun	—	206	—	148½	—	105
Puts						
Jan	17½	29	46	70½	103	142
Feb	37½	52	71	92	121	154
Mar	57	73	94	115½	143½	173
Apr	67	89	108½	132	162½	197½
Jun	—	106½	—	149½	—	206

Series		Calls Dec	Mar	Jun	Puts Dec	Mar	Jun
Abby Natl	420	5	21	29½	0	20	26½
(*425)	460	0	5½	14	35	47½	52½
Amstrad	125	10	15	19	0	4	6½
(*135)	150	0	4	8	15	18½	20½
Barclays	600	11	37	47	0	23	32½
(*611)	650	0	15	25	39	54	62
Blue Circ	280	5½	20½	26½	0	10½	19
(*285½)	300	0	11½	17½	14½	21½	30½
Br Gas	300	7½	19	26	0	7½	14½
(*307½)	330	0	6	12	22½	25	32
Dixons	180	3½	13	18½	0	9	13
(*183½)	200	0	5	10	16½	21½	24½
Forte	240	0	12	17½	0	10½	17
(*240)	260	0	4½	9½	20	23	29
Hillsdwn	160	16	20½	23	0	1½	6
(*176)	180	0	7½	11½	4	8½	16
Lonrho	140	9	13½	18	0	5½	7½
(*149)	160	0	4½	9	11	14½	19
Sears	100	8½	12½	13½	0	2½	4½
(*108½)	110	0	7	8	1½	6½	9
Thrn Eml	1000	12½	48	73½	0	25	31½
(*1012½)	1050	0	24	47½	37½	50	56½
Tomkins	200	13½	18	24½	0	5	7½
(*213½)	220	0	7½	14	6½	14½	16½
TSB	220	17½	23	26½	0	6½	9½
(*237½)	240	0	11	16	2½	16	19
Wellcome	700	5	44½	60	0	36½	49
(*705)	750	0	23½	39½	45	67	78½
Series		**Jan**	**Apr**	**Jul**	**Jan**	**Apr**	**Jul**
Glaxo	650	42½	60	75½	7	25	33
(*682½)	700	14	34	49½	28½	50	58
HSBC	700	31½	54	66½	11½	39½	48
(*715½)	750	4	31	44½	40	69	77½
Reuter	460	20½	32	44	6½	19	25½
(*471)	500	5	15½	26	31	41½	48
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Jul**	**Feb**	**May**	**Jul**
Royal Ins	260	25½	31½	35½	4	11	13
(*279)	280	13½	21	25½	11½	20½	22
Series		**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Fisons	110	2	12	15½	0	7	10½
(*112)	120	0	7½	11	8	13	16
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
Eastern Gp	750	37	60	71	24½	39½	52
(*765)	800	16	37½	49	53½	67½	80
Series		**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Natl Pwr	460	18½	30½	49	0	10½	20
(*478½)	500	0	15½	29	21½	30	40½
Scot Pwr	330	5	19½	31	0	17½	23½
(*335)	360	0	8	19	25	30½	41

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Mar 95	3078.0	3111.0	3072.0	3092.0	6540
Previous open interest: 57426	Jun 95				3104.5	0
FT-SE 250	Mar 95	3490.0	3490.0	3490.0	3493.0	25
Previous open interest: 3898	Jun 95					0
Three Month Sterling	Dec 94	93.56	93.58	93.55	93.56	5551
Previous open interest: 491120	Mar 95	92.60	92.72	92.60	92.70	24303
	Jun 95	91.94	92.05	91.94	92.01	3959
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 95				92.92	0
Previous open interest: 2026	Jun 95	92.23	92.23	92.23	92.22	50
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 95	94.37	94.43	94.36	94.43	14663
Previous open interest: 671490	Jun 95	94.05	94.09	94.04	94.07	5724
Long Gilt	Dec 94	102-24	102-31	102-23	103-00	417
Previous open interest: 122458	Mar 95	102-05	102-14	102-03	102-11	6839
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 95	108.72	108.83	108.70	108.82	1824
	Jun 95				108.12	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 95	89.63	89.76	89.60	89.64	21033
Previous open interest: 171362	Jun 95				89.04	0
Three month ECU	Mar 95	93.26	93.34	93.26	93.30	1224
Previous open interest: 19281	Jun 95	92.87	92.92	92.87	92.90	99
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 95	95.40	95.48	95.40	95.43	1116
Previous open interest: 31610	Jun 95	95.13	95.13	95.09	95.12	29
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 95	98.82	99.57	98.82	99.45	9141
Previous open interest: 45717	Jun 95				98.75	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¼ Finance Hse 6¾
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 8 Low 6½ Week fixed: 6¼
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅞; 3 mth 6⅛. Sell: 2 mth 5¾; 3 mth 6

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5⅞-5¾	6-5⅞	6⅛-6	6½-6⅜	
Sterling Money Rates:					
Interbank:	5⅞-5¾	6-6	6¼-6⅛	7-6¾	7⅝-7½
Overnight: open 6½, close 6½	5⅞-5¾	6-6	6¼-6⅛	7-6¾	7⅝-7½
Local Authority Deps:	5¾	n/a	6¼	6⅞	7½
Sterling CDs:	5⅞-5¾	6⅛-6	6¼-6⅛	6⅞-6¾	7⅝-7½
Dollar CDs:	5.94-5.91	n/a	6.21-6.18	6.72-6.69	7.48-7.45
Building Society CDs:	5⅞-5¾	6-6	6¼-6⅛	7-6¾	7⅝-7½

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Nov 30, 1994 Agreed rates Dec 26, 1994 to Jan 24, 1994 Scheme III: 7.39 %. Reference rate Nov 1, 1994 to Nov 30, 1994 Scheme IV & V: 6.107 %

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅞-5¾	5⅞-5¾	6⅛-6	6⅝-6½	5¼-4¾
Deutschemark:	4⅞-4¾	5⅛-5	5⅜-5¼	5⅝-5½	5¼-4¾
French Franc:	5⅝-5½	5⅝-5½	6⅛-5⅞	6¼-6⅛	5¾-4¾
Swiss Franc:	3⅝-3½	3⅞-3¾	4⅛-4	4⅜-4¼	4¼-3¾
Yen:	2¼-2	2¼-2⅛	2⅜-2¼	2½-2⅜	2¼-1½

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $382.20-382.70 **Close:** $381.95-382.45 **High:** $382.20-382.70 **Low:** $381.60-382.10 **AM:** $382.50 **PM:** $382.05
Krugerrand: $381.50-383.50 (£244.50-246.50)
Platinum: $417.50 (£267.80) **Silver:** $4.82 (£3.085) **Palladium:** $153.75 (£98.60)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Dec 21	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.7389-2.7460	2.7396-2.7423	¼-⅛pr	¾-⅝pr
Brussels	50.28-50.45	50.28-50.38	5pr-par	15-7pr
Copenhagen	9.6070-9.6320	9.6150-9.6300	¼-¼pr	¼-1¼ds
Dublin	1.0120-1.0155	1.0125-1.0153	2pr-1ds	par-4ds
Frankfurt	2.4476-2.4530	2.4488-2.4521	¼pr-par	¾-⅝pr
Lisbon	251.40-252.13	251.40-252.04	89-99ds	250-276ds
Madrid	206.48-207.53	206.48-207.12	34-44ds	100-119ds
Milan	2558.60-2571.30	2559.20-2561.90	5-7ds	16-18ds
Montreal	2.1692-2.1762	2.1731-2.1742	0.04-0.01pr	0.03-0.15ds
New York	1.5584-1.5606	1.5596-1.5606	0.01-0.02ds	par-0.02ds
Oslo	10.6850-10.7110	10.6920-10.7080	¾pr-¼ds	1¼-½pr
Paris	8.4430-8.4690	8.4550-8.4690	¼pr-par	¾-¼pr
Stockholm	11.6690-11.7410	11.6760-11.6930	1¼-2¼ds	4¼-5¼ds
Tokyo	156.02-156.46	156.18-156.44	¾-¾pr	1¾-1¼pr
Vienna	17.22-17.28	17.22-17.27	1¼-¾pr	5¼-3¼pr
Zurich	2.0667-2.0764	2.0667-2.0697	¾-¼pr	1¼-1pr

Source: Extel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2888-1.2896
Austria	11.05-11.06
Belgium (Com)	32.29-32.30
Canada	1.3923-1.3928
Denmark	6.1680-6.1710
France	5.4255-5.4265
Germany	1.5710-1.5715
Hong Kong	7.7365-7.7375
Ireland	1.5362-1.5377
Italy	1642.5-1643.0
Japan	100.18-100.23
Malaysia	2.5605-2.5615
Netherlands	1.7583-1.7588
Norway	6.8585-6.8615
Portugal	161.45-161.55
Singapore	1.4632-1.4642
Spain	132.73-132.78
Sweden	7.4934-7.5034
Switzerland	1.3280-1.3290

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5548-1.5575
Australia dollar	2.0086-2.0106
Bahrain dinar	0.582-0.594
Brazil real*	1.3211-1.3252
Cyprus pound	0.7425-0.7525
Finland markka	7.530-7.646
Greece drachma	375.25-382.25
Hong Kong dollar	12.0573-12.0628
India rupee	48.50-49.46
Kuwait dinar KD	0.463-0.473
Malaysia ringgit	3.9905-3.9934
Mexico peso	6.15-6.25
New Zealand dollar	2.4397-2.4424
Pakistan rupee	47.40 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.7875-5.9135
Singapore dollar	2.2804-2.2827
S Africa rand (fin)	6.2467-6.3000
S Africa rand (com)	5.5385-5.5453
U A E dirham	5.665-5.789

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	1,400	Legal & Gn	610
ASDA Gp	3,500	Lloyds Bk	2,100
Abbey Natl	3,000	MEPC	1,400
Alld Dom	1,900	Marks Spr	3,800
Argyll Gp	1,600	NatWst Bk	3,000
Arjo Wiggn	944	Nat Power	2,300
AB Foods	470	Nth Wst W	1,100
BAA	1,200	P & O	845
BAT Inds	4,100	Pearson	2,400
BOC	739	PowerGen	1,000
BP	4,700	Prudential	1,800
BTR	4,600	RMC	229
BT	7,600	RTZ	1,300
Bk of Scot	1,100	Rank Org	4,000
Barclays	4,700	Reckitt Col	938
Bass	885	Redland	1,000
Blue Circle	2,100	Reed Intl	607
Boots	593	Rentokil	866
Bowater	718	Reuters	1,500
Brit Aero	1,300	Rolls Royce	5,300
Brit Airwys	1,000	Ryl Ins	1,800
Brit Gas	8,400	Ryl Bk Scot	2,100
Brit Steel	4,400	Sainsbury	1,000
Burmah Cast	1,000	Schroders	14
Cable Wire	2,700	Scot & New	407
Cadbury	2,700	Scot Power	472
Caradon	1,100	Sears	472
Carlton Cms	945	Svrn Trent	853
Cm Union	579	Shell Trans	2,800
Courtaulds	593	Siebe	939
De La Rue	1,100	SmKl Bch	5,800
Eastern Elec	352	Smith Nph	3,500
Enterpr Oil	409	Southern Elec	853
Forte	1,800	Std Chartd	902
GKN	861	Sun Allnce	3,200
GRE	2,100	TI Gp	641
GUS	590	TSB	1,000
Gen Acc	1,700	Tesco	1,100
Gen Elec	3,100	Thames W	523
Glaxo	14,000	Thrn EMI	514
Granada	617	Tomkins	644
Grand Met	2,500	Unilever	777
Guinness	1,300	Utd Bisc	657
HSBC	1,600	Vodafone	5,000
Hanson	5,100	Warburg (SG)	993
ICI	1,100	Wellcome	4,400
Inchcape	846	Whitbread	1,000
Kingfisher	1,000	Wllms Hld	5,500
Ladbroke	11,000	Wolseley	764
Land Secs	1,000	Zeneca	7,900

WALL STREET

	Dec 21 midday	Dec 20 close
AMP Inc	71½	70¾
AMR Corp	51¼	51
AT & T	51	50¾
Abbott Labs	32¼	32¾
Advanced Micro	23	22¾
Aetna Life	47¼	46¾
Ahmanson (HF)	16¾	16¾
Air Prod & Chem	45¼	45¾
Albertson's	29¼	28¾
Alcan Aluminum	25¾	25¼
Alco Standard	61¾	61¾
Allied Signal	34¼	33¾
Alum Co of Am	83¼	80¾
Amax Gold Inc	6	6
Amerada Hess	44¼	44½
Amer Brands	36¼	36¾
Amer El Power	33¾	32¾
Amer Express	29¼	29¾
Amer Genl Corp	28¾	28¾
Amer Home Pr	65¼	65¾
Amer Intl	99¾	98¾
Amer Stores	26¾	26¾
Ameritech	42¼	41¾
Amoco	61¼	61¾
Anheuser-Busch	51	50¾
Apple Computer	38	38¾
Archer Daniels	20¾	20¾
Armco	6¾	6¾
Armstrng Wrld	38¾	38¾
Asarco	28¾	28
Ashland Oil	33¼	33¾
Atl Richfield	103¼	102¼
Auto Data Pro	57¾	56¾
Avery Dennison	35¼	34¼
Avon Products	62¾	62¾
Baker Hughes	18¼	18¼
Baltim Gas & El	21¼	22
Banc One	25¾	26
BankAmerica	41	40¾
Bank of NY	30¾	30¼
Bankers Tr NY	57¾	57
Barnett Banks	39¼	39¾
Bausch & Lomb	33¼	32¾
Baxter Intl	28¾	27¾
Becton Dicknsn	49¼	49¾
Bell Atlantic	50¼	50¾
BellSouth	54	53¾
Black & Decker	24¼	23¾
Block (H&R)	37	37¼
Boeing	48¼	48¼
Boise Cascade	25¾	25¾
Borden Inc	12¾	12¾
Bristol Myrs Sq	60¾	59¾
Browning Ferris	28¾	27¾
Brunswick	17¼	17¾
Burlington Nthn	48¾	48¾
CBS	53¼	53
CNA Financial	66¼	66¾
CPC Intl	54¼	53¾
CSX	69	68¾
Campbell Soup	44¼	44¾
Can Pacific	15¼	14¾
Cpd Cities ABC	85¼	83¾
Carolina Pwr	26¼	26¾
Caterpillar	53¼	52¾
Central & SW	23	23¾
Champion Intl	37¼	37¾
Chase Manhat	35¾	35
Chemical Bk	37¼	37¾
Chevron Corp	44¾	44¾
Chrysler	46¼	46¾
Chubb Corp	78¼	78¾
Cigna Corp	65¼	66¼
Citicorp	43¼	43¾
Clorox	59	58¾
Coastal Corp	25¾	25¾
Coca Cola	52¼	52¾
Colgate-Palmolive	64¼	64¾
Columbia Gas	24	23¾
Compaq Comp	39¼	37¾
Comp Ass Int	47¾	45¾
Conagra	31¼	31¾
Cons Edison	26¼	26
Cons Nat Gas	35¾	35¾
Cons Rail	49¼	49¾
Cooper Inds	33¼	32¾
Corning Inc	30¼	29¾
Crown Cork	38¼	38¾
Dana Corp	23	22¾
Dayton Hudson	76¼	74¾
Deere	65¾	66
Delta Air Lines	47	47
Deluxe Corp	26¼	26¾
Detroit Edison	26¼	26¾
Digital Equip	33¼	34
Dillard Dept St	28	27¾
Disney (Walt)	44¼	44¾
Dominion Res	37	36¾
Donelley (RR)	29	28¾
Dover Corp	52¼	52¾
Dow Chemical	68¼	69
Dow Jones	31	30¾
Dresser	19¼	19
Duke Power	38¼	38¾
Dun & Brdstreet	54¼	54
Du Pont	55¼	54¾
Eastman Kodak	46¼	45¾
Eaton Corp	48	47¾
Emerson Elec	61¾	61¾
Engelhard Corp	22¼	22¾

	Dec 21 midday	Dec 20 close
Enron Corp	30¼	29¾
Entergy	22¾	22¾
Ethyl Corp	9¾	9¾
Exxon	61¾	61¾
FMC Corp	59¾	59
FPL Group	35	34¾
Federal Express	59¾	58¾
Fed Nat Mrge	73¼	72¾
First Chicago	47¾	48
First Interstate	69¾	69¾
First Union Rty	6¾	6¾
Fleet Finl Grp	32¾	32
Floor Corp	43¾	43¾
Ford Motor	26¾	26¾
GTE Corp	30¾	30¾
Gannett	52¾	51¾
Gap Inc Del	31¼	30¾
Gen Dynamics	43¾	43¾
Gen Electric	50¾	49¾
Gen Mills	57¼	57¾
Gen Motors	37¼	38
Gen Reinsurance	127¾	126¾
Gen Signal	32	32
Genuine Parts	36¼	36¾
Georgia Pac	74¼	73¾
Gillette	75¼	74¾
Glaxo ADR	21¼	20¾
Goodrich (BF)	44¼	44
Goodyear Tire	33¾	32¾
Grace (W&R)	39¼	38¾
Grt Atl Pac Tea	17¼	18¼
Great Wstn Fin	17	17
Halliburton	35	34¾
Harcourt General	35¼	34¾
Heinz (HJ)	37	37
Hercules	113¼	112¼
Hershey Foods	49¼	48¾
Hewlett Packard	98¾	97¾
Hilton Hotels	69	70¾
Home Depot	46¼	44¾
Homestake Mng	17	17¾
Honeywell	29¼	29¾
Household Intl	38	37¾
Houston Inds	36¼	35¾
Humana	22¾	22
ITT Corp	82¼	82¾
Illinois Tool	41¼	41¾
Illinova	21	20¾
INCO	29¼	29¾
Ingersoll Rand	31¼	31¾
Inland Steel	35¼	35¾
Intel Corp	62¾	61¾
IBM	72	70¾
Intl Flav & Fr	46¼	46¾
Intl Paper	75¼	75¾
James River Vs	20¾	20¾
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	54¾	54¾
Kellogg	60¼	60¾
Kerr-McGee	45¼	45¾
Kimberly-Clark	50	49¾
Kmart	13¼	13¾
Knight-Ridder	52¼	51¾
Lilly (Eli)	65	64¾
Limited Inc	19¼	19¾
LIN Brdcstng	144¾	142¾
Lincoln Nat	36¼	36
Litton	36¾	36¾
Liz Claiborne	17¼	17¾
Lockheed	70¾	70¾
Louisiana Pac	28	28¾
MCI Comm	18¾	18¾
Marriott Int	27¾	27¾
Marsh & McLnn	80	79¾
Masco Corp	23¼	23¾
May Dept St	34¾	33¾
Maytag Corp	15	14¾
McDonalds	29	28¾
McDonnell D	142¾	142¾
McGraw Hill	69¼	68¾
Mead Corp	49¼	48¾
Medtronic	54¾	54¾
Mellon Bk	32	31¾
Melville Corp	30¾	30¾
Merck Inc	39	38¾
Merrill Lynch	36	34¾
Minnesota Mine	52¾	51¾
Mobil Corp	84¾	84¾
Monsanto	70	68¾
Morgan (JP)	56¾	55¾
Motorola Inc	57¼	56¾
Natl Medical	13¼	13¾
Natl Semi	19	18¾
Natl Service Ind	25¾	25¾
Navistar Int	15	14¾
NBD Bancorp	29¼	28¾
NY Times A	22	22¾
Newmont Mng	35¾	35¾
Niag Mohawk	15¼	14
Nike B	74¾	71¾
NL Industries	11¼	11¾
Noram Energy	5¾	5¾
Nordstrom	45¼	46¾
Nthn State Pwr	45¼	45¾
Norwest Corp	23¼	23¾
Nynex Corp	37¾	37¾
Occidental Pet	19¼	19¾
Ohio Edison	18¾	19
Oracle Systems	42¾	39¾
Oryx Energy Co	11¼	11¾

	Dec 21 midday	Dec 20 close
Owens Corning	30¼	30
PNC Financial	22¾	22¾
PPG Industries	39¾	38¾
Paccar Inc	45¾	44¾
Pacificorp	18¾	18¾
Pac Enterprises	21½	21¼
Pac Gas & Elect	24¼	24¾
Pac Telesis	29¾	30
Pall Corp	19¾	19¾
Panhandle East	20	20¾
Parker Hannifin	45½	45½
Peco Energy	24¼	24¾
Penney (JC)	42¼	41¼
Pennzoil	45¾	44¾
Pepsico	36¾	36¼
Pfizer	78¾	78¾
Phelps Dodge	59¾	59¾
Philip Morris	57¾	57¼
Phillips Pet	33¼	34¾
Pitney Bowes	31¼	32¾
Polaroid	31½	31½
PriceCostco	12¼	13
Procter & Gmbl	62¼	61½
Providian	31½	31
Pub Serv E & G	26¾	26¾
Quaker Oats	30¾	30¾
Ralston Purina	44½	44
Raychem Corp	35¾	35¼
Raytheon	63¾	63¼
Reebok Intl	39¾	39¾
Reynolds Metals	49¾	48¾
Roadway Srves	51¼	50¾
Rockwell Intl	35¾	35
Rohm & Haas	58¾	58¾
Royal Dutch	107¼	106½
Rubbermaid	29¼	28¾
Safeco Corp	51¼	51¼
St Paul's Cos	45	44½
Salomon Inc	37¾	37¾
Santa Fe Pac	17¼	13¾
Sara Lee Corp	25¾	25¼
Seecorp	15	15
Schering Plough	75½	74¾
Schlumberger	51½	51½
Scott Paper	69¾	68½
Seagram	29¼	28¾
Sears Roebuck	46½	44½
Shell Trans	65¼	64½
Sherwin Wllms	32¼	32
Skyline Corp	17¼	17¾
Snap-On-Tools	33¾	33¾
Southern Co	20¾	20
Sthwestern Bell	42	41½
Sprint Corp	27¾	27¼
Stanley Works	37¼	37
Sun Company	28¾	28¼
Sun Microsys	35	33¾
Suntrust	49¾	49¼
Supervalu	24¼	24½
Sysco Corp	26¾	26½
TRW Inc	65¾	64¼
TCC Inds	2¾	2½
Tandem Comp	17¼	16¾
Tandy Corp	48¼	49¾
Teledyne	19¼	17¾
Temple Inland	46	46½
Tenneco	42¼	42½
Texaco	61½	61½
Texas Inst	72½	71¼
Texas Utilities	32½	32¼
Textron	50¾	50
Time Warner	33¾	33¼
Times-Mirror	31½	31½
Timken	34¼	35
Torchmark	35½	35½
Toys R Us	33¾	33¾
Transamerica	50¾	50¾
Travelers	33	32¾
Tribune	53½	53¾
Tyco Labs	47½	47¼
UST Inc	27¾	27¼
UAL	87¼	87¼
USX Marathon	16¼	16½
Unicom	24½	23½
Unilever Nv	115½	113¾
Union Camp	48¼	48¼
Union Carbide	30¾	29¾
Union Pacific	46¼	45½
Unisys Corp	8¾	8½
USAIR Group	4¾	4½
USF&G Corp	13¾	13¾
US Life	35	34¾
US West	36¾	36¼
United Tech	62½	61¼
Unocal Corp	27¼	27
Upjohn	31½	31½
VF Corp	47¾	47¼
WMX Tech	26¼	26
Wal-Mart Stores	22¾	22¼
Warner-Lambert	76¾	76¾
Wells Fargo	148¼	147¾
Westinghouse El	12	12
Weyerhaeuser	38	38
Whirlpool	49¼	49¾
Whitman	16¼	16¾
Winn Dixie	52¾	51¾
Woolworth	14¼	14¼
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	49¾	48¾
Xerox	98¾	96¾
Yellow Corp	22¾	22¾

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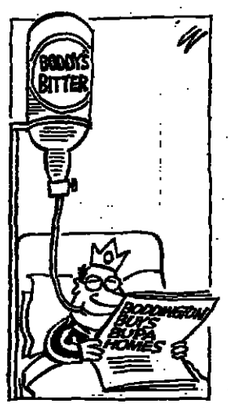
THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Invisible woman

HELP! Is there anybody out there who can assist Alison Wright, Director-General of British Invisibles, who has been racking her brains to find a more accessible name for her organisation? Hosting seminars and conferences in such exotic places as Beirut and St Petersburg this year, BI's leadership has become aware of how bewildering a concept "invisibles" can be to a foreign audience. "British Intangibles" would be no improvement for a body that promotes the export of almost everything other than physical goods. And therein lies another catch. So many City firms these days are not British-owned that it might be better if the "British" half of BI's name were to vanish too, Wright suggests. Helpful suggestions to *The Times* City Diary, please — and my assurance that, if you so desire, your name will also remain invisible.

Role model

IT SHOWS a refreshing lack of vanity for Kenneth Clarke to choose for his Christmas card a cartoon of a rather portly former Chancellor, Sir William Harcourt, double breasted jacket popping at the buttons. But the blurb on Sir William inside the card shows other qualities with which our Ken clearly empathises. Chancellor for two stints in the nineteenth century, Sir William smoked cigars. His legal mind sharpened his political rhetoric, and he was a master of picturesque invective, sarcasm and paradox. He had a robust approach and was regarded as never happier than when fighting a hopeless battle against overwhelming odds — a coded message to John Major? Sir William once described the Chancellor as "the voice of one crying in the wilderness". So far, so familiar. Then we are told he had an acute appreciation of the role of politicians, declaring: "The Minister exists to tell the Civil Servant what the public will not stand". VAT on fuel, perhaps?



Pre-emptive buy

THE *Financial Times* is pressing ahead with plans to print in Sweden in January, despite a little local difficulty from one Stefan Berj, of Malmo. In August, Berj, aged 29, paid 10,000 kronor (£855) to register the names of ten international papers including the *FT*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and *National Geographic*. He was given printing rights for six months. "We don't know what Mr Berj wants," said Pirjitta Sonesson at the Swedish office of Patents and Registrations. "He doesn't have to give any motives for protecting the name. But we have learnt that representatives of the *Financial Times* were surprised and very unhappy with the news." The FT won't say if, or how much, it might have had to pay to print the pink 'un.

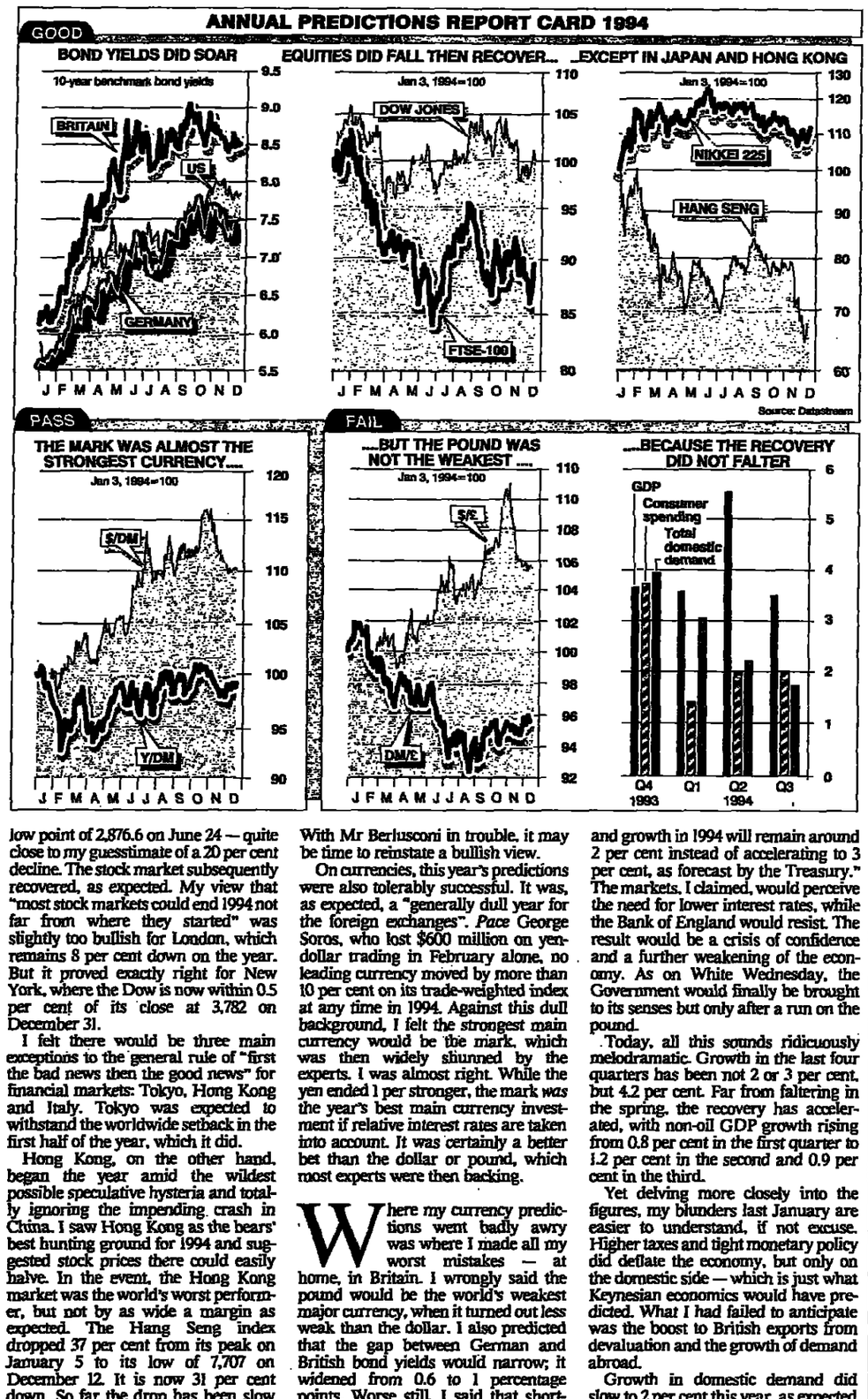
HOW appropriate that Toad Innovations, the high-tech car security company, in which first dealings start today, has appointed Stirling Moss as a consultant. Pip! Pip!

COLIN CAMPBELL

ECONOMIC VIEW  ANATOLE KALETSKY

Right on a world scale, but wrong on the home front

My financial and economic forecasts were blown slightly off course in the past year



This is an article I would rather not be writing. On January 6, I made some unconventional financial and economic predictions for this year, as I usually do in the first Economic View of each year. For 1995, I shall be offering readers the same service (or disservice) on January 11. But first I must review my last predictions, which this year is a less than pleasant experience.

While some of my financial forecasts worked out quite well — my main theme in January was the imminent collapse of the global bull market in bonds, and I was broadly right about currencies and world stockmarkets — I failed on all of the big economic issues. And since I am paid to analyse the economy, not offer investment tips, being right on some of the markets is small consolation for being wrong on monetary policy, inflation and growth.

Nevertheless, let me begin with the good news — though not for the former employees of eminent investment firms like Goldman Sachs, Kidder Peabody and SG Warburg. By last January, bond prices had been rising almost vertically for three years as the world learned to enjoy the new era of low inflation. The self-styled "bond market vigilantes" who prided themselves on being the first to spot any glimmer of economic overheating, were themselves in a state of speculative overheating the like of which had not been seen since Wall Street in 1987.

With ten-year interest rates on German, American and even French government debt down to 5.5 per cent, there was only one reason to go on buying bonds. This was the so-called "bigger fool theory": however overpriced bonds seemed today, a bigger fool would pay even more for them tomorrow. As I said in January, once the bigger fool comes into the market, it is usually time to head for the exit. Only a catalyst was needed for the bull market to collapse. This duly appeared on February 4, when the Federal Reserve raised American interest rates to 3.25 per cent.

Everyone supposedly "knew" that US monetary policy would be tightened. But markets in a speculative fever never truly discount the future, even when it stares them in the face. Even I, as a self-avowed bear, was actually caught up in the bullish fever. I guessed in January that German yields would rise above 6.5 per cent and British rates above 7 per cent — and thought I was being daring. In the event, ten-year yields shot up to 8.5 per cent in Britain and over 7.5 per cent in Germany and America.

Stock markets round the world also tumbled, as expected, once bonds gave way. But so savage was the shakeout in bonds that the relative performance of the two markets defied previous experience. Stock markets usually magnify the gyrations of bonds, but this time they proved more stable: confirming, against the conventional wisdom, that equities offered better fundamental value than bonds at the end of last year. In London, the FT-SE 100 index fell 16 per cent from its year-end level to the low point of 2,876.6 on June 24 — quite close to my guesstimate of a 20 per cent decline. The stock market subsequently recovered, as expected. My view that "most stock markets could end 1994 not far from where they started" was slightly too bullish for London, which remains 8 per cent down on the year. But it proved exactly right for New York, where the Dow is now within 0.5 per cent of its close at 3,782 on December 31.

I felt there would be three main exceptions to the general rule of "first the bad news then the good news" for financial markets: Tokyo, Hong Kong and Italy. Tokyo was expected to withstand the worldwide setback in the first half of the year, which it did.

Hong Kong, on the other hand, began the year amid the wildest possible speculative hysteria and totally ignoring the impending crash in China. I saw Hong Kong as the bears' best hunting ground for 1994 and suggested stock prices there could easily halve. In the event, the Hong Kong market was the world's worst performer, but not by as wide a margin as expected. The Hang Seng index dropped 37 per cent from its peak on January 5 to its low of 7,707 on December 12. It is now 31 per cent down. So far the drop has been slow and uneventful, which suggests that the worst is not over. Rather than make excuses for being over-pessimistic on Hong Kong, therefore, I will simply extend my prediction of a spectacular crash.

For Italy, by contrast, I was bullish — and, of course, completely wrong. But that was an error of politics, not economics. Nobody expected Silvio Berlusconi, with his conflicts of interest and vulnerable business empire, to become Italy's next prime minister. With Mr Berlusconi in trouble, it may be time to reinstate a bullish view.

On currencies, this year's predictions were also tolerably successful. It was, as expected, a "generally dull year for the foreign exchanges". *Pace* George Soros, who lost $600 million on yen-dollar trading in February alone, no leading currency moved by more than 10 per cent on its trade-weighted index at any time in 1994. Against this dull background, I felt the strongest main currency would be the mark, which was then widely shunned by the experts. I was almost right. While the yen ended 1 per stronger, the mark *was* the year's best main currency investment if relative interest rates are taken into account. It was certainly a better bet than the dollar or pound, which most experts were then backing.

Where my currency predictions went badly awry was where I made all my worst mistakes — at home, in Britain. I wrongly said the pound would be the world's weakest major currency, when it turned out less weak than the dollar. I also predicted that the gap between German and British bond yields would narrow; it widened from 0.6 to 1 percentage points. Worse still, I said that short-term interest rates would fall to 4 per cent; they rose to 6.25 per cent.

All of these errors arose directly from a deeper and more embarrassing misjudgment. I failed to see the strength of the economic recovery *in Britain*, or more precisely, the strength of demand for British goods from abroad. In my view the deflationary impact of the 1993 Budget had not been sufficiently offset by the half-point cut in interest rates to 5.5 per cent. "As a result," I said, "recovery is likely to falter in the spring and growth in 1994 will remain around 2 per cent instead of accelerating to 3 per cent, as forecast by the Treasury." The markets, I claimed, would perceive the need for lower interest rates, while the Bank of England would resist. The result would be a crisis of confidence and a further weakening of the economy. As on White Wednesday, the Government would finally be brought to its senses but only after a run on the pound.

Today, all this sounds ridiculously melodramatic. Growth in the last four quarters has been not 2 or 3 per cent, but 4.2 per cent. Far from faltering in the spring, the recovery has accelerated, with non-oil GDP growth rising from 0.8 per cent in the first quarter to 1.2 per cent in the second and 0.9 per cent in the third.

Yet delving more closely into the figures, my blunders last January are easier to understand, if not excuse. Higher taxes and tight monetary policy did deflate the economy, but only on the domestic side — which is just what Keynesian economics would have predicted. What I had failed to anticipate was the boost to British exports from devaluation and the growth of demand abroad.

Growth in domestic demand did slow to 2 per cent this year, as expected — and that sluggishness applied to investment as much as consumer spending. Yet total output accelerated, entirely because of extraordinary export growth: up 14 per cent in the year to September.

The key question for Britain in 1995 is whether this remarkable export performance will continue, or whether the recovery will now crumble as domestic demand slows. Some answers, though probably not the right ones, on January 11.

Telekom chief's departure sets off alarm bells

Colin Narbrough on a row at Europe's biggest telecommunications company

Deutsche Telekom, Europe's biggest telecommunications company, urgently needs a new management board chairman.

The unexpected resignation of Helmut Ricke on December 9 came only three weeks before Telekom, whose annual turnover is DM65 billion, is converted into a joint stock company in preparation for partial privatisation in early 1996.

Herr Ricke's departure — "on personal grounds" — prompted alarm in the financial world, especially among those investment banks and institutions still glowing from their success in securing a chunk of the DM15 billion first slice of the Telekom privatisation issue.

The departure of Herr Ricke, who was appointed in 1990 and was supposed to stay until the end of 1996 to see through the first stage of privatisation, caused dismay in corporate Germany. Senior executives who like to market the dependability of Germany did not like having a surprise like this sprung on them at a crucial moment.

Chancellor Kohl's Christian Democrat-dominated coalition has been keen to dispose of state assets to try to reduce the public-sector deficit, which ballooned after German unification. But there has been no mad dash to privatise. The assets sales, most notably the placing of Lufthansa, the national airline, under private-sector control, have been handled in a measured manner. Yet politicians have been widely identified as the main cause of Herr Ricke's departure.

> Plans to turn Telekom into a modern group were repeatedly frustrated

Under Wolfgang Bötsch, Minister of Posts, Herr Ricke, a political novice recruited from the private sector, has found his plans for turning Telekom from a manacled state-owned giant into a modern, free-moving telecommunications group repeatedly frustrated.

Herr Bötsch, a member of the Christian Social Union, delivered a cruel blow when, on the eve of the general election in October, he announced a sudden change of policy. Instead of the guarantee he had given that Telekom could keep its telephone monopoly until the year 2000, Herr Bötsch said the deadline would now be brought forward until 1998 and that Germany could even go it alone without waiting for his European partners and deregulate telecommunications.

The problems facing Herr Ricke involved, among other things, converting a long established state bureaucracy with all the accompanying regulations for a large part of the 23,000 staff, into a smoothly working organisation suited to current market conditions.

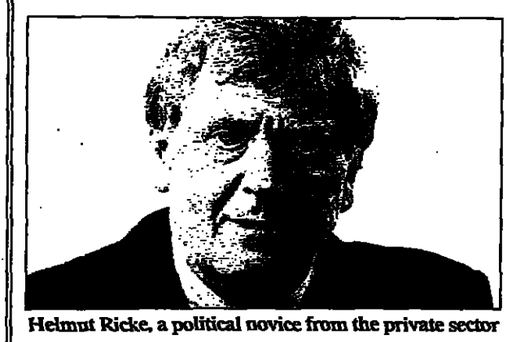
The federal Government's demands for billions of marks from Telekom's profits to be handed over to prop up the loss-making postal service and postal bank had also been a major source of irritation to Herr Ricke as privatisation neared. In addition, he had clashed with Herr Bötsch on pricing policy and the manner in which the Government awarded operating licences to Telekom competitors.

Given the scale of the privatisation — the biggest in Europe and the second in the world after NTT of Japan — Herr Ricke had tried to keep his hands as free as possible from political interference. Coming from Loewe Opta, the telecommunications equipment maker, he knew the business very well from the hardware side.

His fraught relations with Herr Bötsch were not simply a matter of personal bad chemistry. They highlighted what has been widely recognised as a lack of necessary distance between the state as owner of Telekom and the state as its regulator. Under present plans, the boards of the holding company that will be responsible for Telekom will be bedecked with well known politicians. Critics of Herr Ricke accuse him of being incapable of crucial decisions and of being short on strategic vision for the huge company now going to market. The fact that he appears to have made wrong calls on key partnership deals has fuelled criticism from industry analysts about his abilities.

Brussels rejected a pay-TV link-up with France Telecom and two German media groups. The European Commission is also understood to harbour doubts about the central alliance between the French and German telecoms on the ground that they could dominate Europe. The link between the two and Sprint, the US long distance carrier, may still not go beyond the memorandum of understanding.

Wilhelm Pällmann, a Telekom director, has stepped in as the interim chief. Among those tipped to get the top job, Gerd Tenzer, the technical director, is the favourite at the moment. Another scenario that has been gaining favour is that Herr Bötsch plans to seize the moment and replace the whole management team. That is one way to start down the road to the private sector.


Helmut Ricke, a political novice from the private sector

BUSINESS LETTERS

History of rent controls show they distort the market

From Mr David J. Lewis

Sir, There are no rent controls which are "fail-safe". The history of efforts to impose rent controls repeatedly demonstrates that they merely distort the market, reduce supply, remove the incentive to invest, arbitrarily pass value from landlords to tenants and inevitably increase underlying rental values as a result of the creation of scarcity.

It is therefore disturbing to see reference to the imposition of rent controls as a policy towards "making people feel better next year" without any regard to the consequences of such policies which time and again have shown themselves to be undesirable and which end up having the opposite effect to that naively intended.

Testing against market levels requires market levels to be established. Rent controls distort market levels. They restrict artificially the rents being controlled and lift artificially those that for whatever reason remain uncontrolled. If everything remains controlled then no market levels are available save for capital values which will rise artificially. If a rent rises by more than twice the rise in money national income (presumably on an annualised basis and presumably adjusted for inflation) this will either be as a result of agreement between landlord and tenant upon review or by reference to the well established arbitration procedures under the 1954 Landlord and Tenant Act, which themselves relate to market levels. One cannot refer to market levels if the market is being artificially interfered with. The absurdities of the effort some years ago to seek to set certain residential rental values by reference to artificial levels which in theory eliminate scarcity is recent enough to indicate the fallacy that such suggestions imply.

The reference to banning leases with upward only rent reviews is a further distortion of what is a reflection of market forces from time to time. Terms of leases freely agreed between landlords and tenants reflect "market levels" at any given time. When demand exceeds supply landlords gain a better bargain. When supply exceeds demand tenants get a better bargain. One might just as well argue that break clauses in favour of tenants only (which are frequently to be found in recently granted leases) should be banned because they are a disincentive to landlords to invest in property and thus reduce the supply and push up values as a consequence. There is a totality of value in any given property transaction or indeed any other transaction. How that total figure is divided between landlord and tenant, vendor and purchaser, producer and consumer etc is a matter for the market to determine. Any artificial interference in any part of the equation merely artificially transfers part of that total value to the other party with consequential further distortion, thus solving, in theory, one problem but inevitably creating another.

It is disturbing that such suggestions should appear without adequate argument or analysis. Making people feel better next year is no substitute for ensuring that they have a long and healthy life.

Yours faithfully,
D. J. LEWIS,
Chairman,
Molyneux Estates Plc,
Catherine House,
76 Gloucester Place, W1H.

No surprise

From Sir Ian Morrow

Sir, It cannot come as a surprise that improved roads appeal to the user and increase traffic.

Airlines buy expensive jets and demand improved airport facilities designed to increase traffic. This is acceptable. The Channel Tunnel must create traffic or it is a failure.

In short, improved transport whether by road, rail or air heightens the quality of life.

Yours faithfully
SIR IAN MORROW
2 Albert Terrace Mews, NW1.

Reports lead to feel-good confusion

From Mr C. A. Cheetham

Sir, Re: "Feel-good" factor. I'm a redundant blue-collar worker, aged 62. I'm puzzled.

In Anatole Kaletsky's analysis of the American dollar he suggests in one column that America needs to shift *away* from manufacturing whilst in the next column he suggests America turn *to* manufacturing. It appears he is advocating a stronger dollar but ends his article warning of the dangers of an escalating currency.

Across the page Philip Bassett reports on the employment/unemployment in this country, stating that from the government figures the banking, finance and insurance sector upped the employment figures by 52,000.

On your front page you report a finance house cutting jobs by 900. Over recent months the papers have reported job losses by all the major banks, utilities and finance houses. It doesn't seem logical to me that these companies cut jobs on one hand and create employment on the other!

I just don't know what to believe — and I'm sure I'm not alone.

Yours faithfully,
C. A. CHEETHAM,
19 St Dominic Park,
Harrowbarrow,
Cornwall.

Some threat

From Sir Alan Neale

Sir, Six months ago in May, the Retail Prices Index stood at 144.7. Now I see that the November figure is 145.3. This means that it has advanced over the six-month period by the great amount of 0.4 per cent.

Can the market pundits and the Governor be aware of these figures? If they are, what on earth persuades them that the country has to fear renewed threats of inflation.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN NEALE
95 Swains Lane, N6.

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ACCOUNTANCY

Hit fraudsters who abuse faith in the family trust

Colleagues **Noel Campbell** and **Neville Byford** explain the need to reform the law


HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Noel Campbell, left, and Neville Byford want better protection for beneficiaries

There is something incongruous about the sight of former owners of companies recently wound up leading seemingly extravagant lifestyles. How on earth do they do it? A possible explanation is that their lifestyle is supported by assets from a discretionary family trust that has been funded by company assets fraudulently transferred to it — a possibility which has come to exercise the minds of lawyers and insolvency practitioners alike.

Even if the liquidator of the company whose assets have been taken manages to discover the existence of the trust fund, it will be difficult to obtain all the assets traced into the fund in spite of litigation being successfully brought to recover them. This mischief is largely caused by the decision of *Re Beddoe (1983) 1Ch547*. It enables trustees to ask the court to consider whether they should defend any action brought against the trust and whether they should have an indemnity for their costs from the trust's assets for so doing. The principle behind the case, protection of trustees, is admirable. In practice, it may protect those who have fraudulently transferred assets.

When a liquidator seeks to recover assets placed in a trust fund in breach of fiduciary duty, the trustee will make an application to the court under *Re Beddoe*. But the assessment of the strength of the case against the trust may not be fully appreciated by the court because the liquidator is not allowed to attend the application nor put his case.

This is because at the *Beddoe* application the trustees are expected to be frank with the court as to the merits of the claim against them. But it is difficult to envisage how the claim can be evaluated fairly when one of the claimants is not allowed to attend the application. It is particularly illogical: even if the trustees are innocent, beneficiaries under a family trust will be related to the fraudster and thus sympathetic to him. The beneficiaries are party to the *Beddoe* hearing and therefore can influence it — by putting forward defences (which may have been "dreamt up" by the fraudster) to the liquidator's claim. If the trustees themselves are not independent, they may also wrongly influence the court.

In our view, no real harm would be done by the liquidator (or any claimant) attending the *Beddoe* application and putting forward his arguments. For example, no damage is suffered by a defendant on an application for summary judgment which is successfully resisted. Even though the liquidator would hear the strengths and weaknesses of the case evaluated, these are hardly matters that would surprise the liquidator or give him any advantage. If the court resolves that there is a triable issue, then of course the trustees should be allowed to defend. In *Aslop Wilkinson v. Neary* (*The Times*, November 4, 1994). Mr Justice Lightman said that a trustee's duty was "to remain neutral and offer to submit to the court's directions, leaving it to the rivals to fight their battles". But how can trustees, or a court, remain neutral when they do not hear argument from all claimants to the trust's assets?

Nevertheless, until a proper consideration of the strength of the case against the trustees is permitted, trustees will usually be allowed to defend and to use the trust assets to do so. Even if the liquidator succeeds in establishing that trust assets belong to the company over which he has been appointed, the trustees will invariably be entitled to deduct the costs of defending the action from the trust assets (see Megarry VC in *Re Dallaway (1982) 1WLR 756 at 759-760* and *Ideal Bedding Co Ltd v. Holland (1907) 2Ch157*). Hence, if the trustees do obtain leave to defend under *Re Beddoe*, the liquidator will be under added pressure to consider whether it is commercially more prudent to settle or to continue with the litigation: in either case, the liquidator will have to accept that the fund claimed will be cut, whether by payment of the trustees' costs or by settlement.

We believe that the time to reform *Beddoe* applications has arrived. All claimants to a trust fund should be allowed to appear at the *Beddoe* hearing. It is obviously right that if trustees are to be involved in litigation concerning trust assets, they should receive an indemnity from the trust assets for the costs incurred in defending the action.

Few people would agree to be trustees if, potentially, they were liable for costs when defending proceedings brought against the trust fund. However, there is no need for trustees to be involved in litigation concerning a trust fund, as the court can do the trustees' job. It would be much more cost-effective, when actions are brought against trustees, for them to assign their duties to the court entirely and then retire until resolution of the case. The action would then be between the liquidator and the beneficiaries — the two rival claimants to the trust's assets. Whoever wins the action should be entitled to retain all the assets of the trust, and to seek a costs order against the loser.

Unless the procedure is reformed, corporate fraudsters will continue to use discretionary family trusts to ensure that their families remain rich, often at the expense of legitimate claims from creditors of insolvent companies.

□ Noel Campbell is a partner and Neville Byford a lawyer at Lovell White Durrant. They practise in the area of corporate fraud and asset recovery.

Vital need for clear lines of responsibility

WITH the clamour of the audit debate still ringing in our ears, I make no apology for returning to the fine words of Walter Schuetze. He is the chief accountant of the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), and is not noted for calling a spade a farming implement used by those whose noble labour is taken from them by a corrupt and ill-focused capitalist agricultural monopoly.

Among the huge number of responses which the Auditing Practices Board (APB), received on its report, *The Future Development of Auditing*, his was one of the clearest and most determined. What he did was send in a copy of a speech which he had recently made to the American Accounting Association. And if the ears of the American Accounting Association could have been observed after the speech, a quantity of steam would have been seen to be issuing from either side. Schuetze shoots from the hip.

Take his thoughts on the problem of litigation, for example. He sympathises, particularly with what he calls "abusive litigation against accountants". He agrees that in cases of "non-meritorious litigation" the loser should pay the winner's costs. He supports all measures which would deter people from simply going for auditors because they have, in insurance terms, "deep pockets". He will support any legal actions which are *simply frivolous in intent*, an attempt to just "try it on". But he is contemptuous of the accounting profession's efforts to help itself. "The profession, with a few exceptions, is not doing anything about the underlying causes of litigation against itself."


ROBERT BRUCE

"It will not," he argued, "pull on its own bootstraps." He argues with considerable force that auditors have it within their power to solve their own problems. "The profession," he said, "will not go to its clients and tell those clients that their balance sheets have to have realism in order to elicit unqualified opinions. Why not? Well, that could involve being tough with a client. Maybe make the client angry. Maybe the client will go across the street to another auditing firm and that firm will agree to report on a balance sheet that has outdated or irrelevant representations in it."

He expands on this point by looking at the results of the handiwork of US auditing firms. "In SEC filings," he said, "we sometimes see what I call incredible accounting. When our staff challenges the accounting, it becomes clear that the auditor did not concur with his or her client's accounting, but nonetheless signed an unqualified opinion, hoping that our staff would challenge and object to the accounting and thereby become the bad guy. Our staff is being used as the auditor's leverage, but only after the auditor agrees to the incredible accounting."

He shows quite how entwined an auditor can become in client affairs. The APB report went to great lengths to try to separate out the idea of who the client was. Instinctively, auditors think of the company, its directors and, in particular, its finance director, as "the client". Legally, the client is, of course, the mass of shareholders. Auditors, by necessity, work closely with the officers of the company, but crucially always need to keep that arms-length gap in between.

Schuetze looks at the issue of accounting for debt securities as an example and says it is terribly easy and dangerous for auditors to become fatally intertwined. He said: "It is not within the competence of independent auditors to make interest-rate forecasts, and independent auditors should not be responsible for judgments about forbearance from laws and regulations."

But the key is what happens when things start, even slowly, to go wrong. "Once an independent auditor has agreed that a decline in the market value below cost need not be recognised and thereby not reduce the reported amount of capital, he or she then becomes wedded to that decision and will not reverse it because to do so is to admit error, or at least fallibility, not to mention the exposure to litigation."

"The auditor then has a vested interest in the client's interest-rate forecast and psychologically may no longer be independent in the deepest meaning of the word."

The answer is that no red herrings of debates over principles versus rule books should be allowed to snatch the audit agenda. The importance is establishing a clear line of responsibility. Once that is in place, then all other arguments realign and fit the overall principle.

Or as Schuetze would say: "I think that instead of thinking simply of its clients and itself, the profession needs to give some thought to the public that it serves — to the investors and creditors and employees who put up their money and their labour to make investments in the profession's clients."

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Now you see it, now you don't

EVER since the powers that be stuck a large piece of sculpture on the pavement opposite their headquarters, the Association of Certified Accountants have been up in arms. Despite the fact that the chunks of curly grey metal are by the renowned Barry Flanagan and on the scale of such things, don't look at all bad, the certifieds have wished it was somewhere other than outside their front door. So their official Christmas card comes as no surprise. Depicting their headquarters on a sunny day, the pavements are wide, clean and empty. The artist has ignored the sculpture.

Balloons go up

THE celebration of the formal presentation of the Royal Charter to the Institute of Taxation last week was, as you might expect, a fine affair. But as members and dignatories gather in the Great Hall at Lincoln's Inn to mark the occasion they couldn't help wondering if the preceding celebrations, had not been, well, a little more exuberant. Every nook and cranny of the mighty hammerbeam roof seemed to be filled with red and gold helium-filled balloons. Impromptu contests to see who could shoot the most down were deemed not to be within the dignity of the newly-chartered tax fraternity.

Not so simple

IN PRESENTING the Institute of Taxation with its Royal Charter, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, allowed himself ample quantities of his famed irony. Starting one section of his speech "updating and simplifying a complicated tax system is itself a complicated exercise", he came to an abrupt halt. He raised his eyebrows and gazed on the throngs of tax experts. "Updating and simplifying" he mused. "I'm not sure that they are not mutually exclusive", he said. Prolonged cheers followed.

IT IS good to see the management accounting body, CIMA, sticking to its traditions. To succeed the noted seadog, Sir David Vallings, as its secretary it has appointed Major General John Chester, a lifelong Royal Marine.

ROBERT BRUCE

Auditors must look deep into the crystal ball

THE accountancy profession is about to become embroiled in a huge debate over the future of auditing (Robert Bruce writes).

The recent publication of *The Audit Agenda* by the Auditing Practices Board (APB), has set many new hares running. But the essential opinions of the many observers and participants in the debate are unlikely to change.

This is shown in stark relief in the two massive volumes of responses to the board's previous and more speculative paper, *The Future Development of Auditing*. These range from the stolid and predictable statements of the great and the good to quirky solutions to parts of the jigsaw.

Take that of Mr W. B. Eborn. Thinking through the problem of making the shareholders more involved in the audit process, he hits the nail exactly on the head. "I wonder whether it might be possible," he suggests, "in respect of public companies, for the audit fee to be payable from the shareholders by way of a deduction from the amounts set aside for dividend payments.

"In that way the shareholders would feel that the auditors were reporting more to them than to the board and it might create a more lively discussion on the new format of the reports."

But the problems which face auditors are shown clearly in the response from Ernst & Young. "It is easier for commentators to express concern that all is not well with the state of auditing than it is for the audit profession to convince them of the very high standards to which the vast majority of audits, particularly of large companies, are carried out," the firm said.

"Auditors are not free to disclose the specific advice they give to companies on sound accounting and reporting practice, or the considerable persuasion they sometimes have to exercise in this regard, even over companies with relatively high standards of corporate governance."

> 'Audits should be limited to the financial condition of the company'

Small wonder that Ernst & Young conclude that "the legislative framework in which auditors operate, far from being, as the APB asserts, a safe harbour in which they have sheltered, has been a strait-jacket for auditors."

This may account for the dismissive and terse responses from some other firms of accountants. Baker Tilly concludes that "we believe, in publishing the McFarlane report, the APB has actually done a grave disservice to auditors and users of accounts".

Binder Hamlyn, while not so dismissive, argues that "while we are committed enthusiasts for change, a note of caution must be sounded. Too much and too fast can be dangerous."

The same attitude to change can be found on the other side of the divide. Lord Alexander of Weedon, expressing the views of the National Westminster Bank, argues that much should stay the same. "The audit should be limited to matters directly connected with the financial condition of the company concerned."

A similar reaction comes from Michael Lawrence, now head of the Stock Exchange but at the time when these responses were formulated head of the 100 Group of finance directors. He argued that the "group does not support the development of any wider role by the auditors in relation to corporate accountability and ethics. This seems unlikely to add value to the directors' present overall responsibilities for these matters."

The same sentiment, that the auditors should, by and large, leave corporate folk alone, comes from the CBI. "On the prevention and detection of fraud and illegal acts," it said, "these are primarily the responsibility of the board and management and our members do not consider it appropriate that auditors be given a positive role and duty to discover such acts."

The future can be glimpsed in the response from Colin Boyd, associate professor of management at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, Canada.

"There is a stark mismatch," he suggested, "between the role that society feels auditors should play in a business community riven with ethical tensions, and the role that auditors have historically held."

He concluded that the role of the auditor must be widened to support the public's needs. "The auditors of twenty years hence," he argued, "will be the referees who report on performance and who will blow the whistle when the firm diverges from a standard of proper conduct in society. In other words, our future auditors will be ethics practitioners."



Michael Lawrence is opposed to a wider role for auditors

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Dartford Accm	156.10	165.30t	...	0.33
Dartford Equity	297.20	241.70	...	1.23
Dartford Euro	191.50	202.70	...	0.57
Dartford Expt Bd	107.50	111.40	...	3.58
Dartford Gilt	72.44	74.66	...	5.54
Dartford Japan	171.60	181.80t	...	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
0293 553 231				
General Acc	514.20	547.10	+ 1.60	2.83
General Inc	453.40	482.40	+ 1.60	2.83
UK Growth Acc	346.40	368.60	+ 0.40	2.82
UK Growth Inc	297.90	352.30	+ 0.30	2.82
Higher Inc Acc	553.20	605.00	+ 0.60	4.87
Higher Inc Inc	377.50	401.70	– 0.40	4.87
GRO(Fnd Int Acc	181.60	191.70	...	6.05
GRO(Fnd Int Inc	148.30	157.90	...	6.05
North America	245.90	260.70	– 0.60	...
Far East	348.20	370.50	+ 2.70	0.06
Europe	358.00	374.50	+ 1.60	0.69
Bal Exempt	98.40	72.67t	+ 0.13	3.13
Bal Fedrtds Acc	98.51	104.80	+ 0.14	3.05
Bal Fedrtds Inc	72.28	76.90	– 0.04	4.85
Global Opps	88.43	85.57t	+ 0.40	0.34
Balanced Acc	92.44	98.79	+ 0.12	3.04
Balanced Inc	51.41	54.70	+ 0.11	3.04
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
01245 717 373				
High Income	126.30	134.10t	– 0.10	7.65
High Inc Equity	156.50	167.40	+ 0.50	4.70
Worldwide Bond	257.20	272.90t	+ 0.10	5.65
Capital Growth				
American Growth	271.20	288.80	– 0.40	.79
Asian Pacific	314.90	335.60	+ 1.50	...
Assets & Earnings	390.40	366.40t	+ 1.20	2.94
Comdty & Energy	160.20	177.20	+ 1.20	...
Euro Coastal Inc	120.40	128.20	+ 0.70	.72
(Accum Units)	135.00	144.30	+ 0.80	.72
General	216.90	230.70	+ 1.30	2.96
Japan	126.30	134.40	...	...
Micro-Shares	139.50	148.60	+ 0.90	1.64
UK Growth Inc	113.80	121.70	+ 0.20	2.67
US Emerging Cos	126.60	135.40	+ 0.10	...
Income & Growth	368.70	392.30t	+ 2.10	3.19
Pacific	95.14	89.36	+ 0.40	3.07
International	113.60	120.90	+ 0.10	.96
Dividend & Growth	58.90	62.66	+ 0.25	4.48
Global Earth & Soc	68.14	70.53	+ 0.09	2.61
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
031 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	£18.09	£16.74	...	...
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 blah blah				
Amer Inc & Growth	42.66	43.69	– 0.02	0.71
Cash	50.11	50.11†	...	4.49
Exempted	105.00	109.60	+ 0.70	...
Exempt	943.60	936.10	– 3.50	1.63
Extra Income ✓	47.37	49.82†	+ 0.10	7.28
Far East Emg Eqn	111.40	118.20	+ 0.50	0.53
Fixed Interest ✓	22.12	23.22†	+ 0.06	8.90
Fixed Inv Tst	169.90	178.60	– 0.10	0.94
Income	100.70	105.90	+ 0.30	6.05
Latin American	67.03	70.36	+ 2.55	0.85
Pacific	71.84	74.78	+ 0.46	0.35
Property Shares	64.26	64.32	+ 0.71	2.12
UK Emerging Cos	60.86	63.89	– 0.67	1.94
UK Growth	42.43	45.13	+ 0.50	2.68
Abtr World Pwt ✓	70.03	71.30†	+ 0.24	2.30
Ethical	58.79	61.72†	+ 0.64	2.85
Aberdeen Gil Inc ✓	49.72	49.72†	– 0.02	7.78
AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
031 549 3232				
British Growth	66.52	70.59t	+ 0.26	2.73
British Income	76.57	81.46t	+ 0.34	3.44
Select Portfolio	92.04	97.28t	+ 0.45	...
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
0452 385 958				
Annuity Income	72.23	76.64	+ 0.17	2.65
Income Builder Inc	85.39	88.46t	+ 0.10	3.65
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
FA dlg: 0793 810 365 Client dlg: 0793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	218.60	229.60	+ 0.40	3.34
Capital	385.20	411.70	+ 1.20	2.01
Balanced	647.20	691.80t	+ 2.00	2.65
Accumulator	511.89	512.71	+ 2.00	3.19
Income Trusts				
American Income	45.55	48.66	...	2.66
High Income	372.40	398.00	+ 0.40	3.86
Equity Income	213.60	228.30	+ 0.30	3.65
High Yield	239.50	244.20	+ 0.40	3.56
Govt Securities	32.59	34.41t	...	8.18
International Trusts				
Asian Spec Sits	133.70	142.90	+ 0.60	0.48
European Growth	32.72	34.94	+ 0.18	0.01
International	155.00	165.60	+ 0.40	0.29
Japan	207.40	221.10t	+ 0.50	0.01
Pacific	391.95	418.90t	+ 2.10	0.01
Spec Sit America	398.10	421.60t	+ 2.40	2.60
Worldwide Assnt Val	48.15	49.33	+ 0.14	0.24
Specialists Trusts				
Asset Value	491.70	525.60t	+ 0.90	2.43
Core & Gilt	41.86	44.74	+ 0.16	5.16
Smaller Cos	159.90	170.90	+ 0.10	1.39
2nd Smaller Cos	151.60	162.00	+ 0.10	1.50
Recovery	128.10	136.90	– 0.40	1.91
Mid Mkt & Cnty	146.80	156.90	+ 1.00	0.76
Overs Earnings	327.50	350.00t	+ 0.30	1.56
Technology	154.70	165.30	+ 0.70	0.01
UK Special Sits	421.50	450.60	+ 0.90	1.92
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0295 526 911				
Cntnntl Gwt Pens	93.86	98.88	...	1.45
Fidelity Fixed Pens	99.53	91.94	...	4.00
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01271 600 0833				
Capital	67.85	72.16	– 0.03	1.83
International	81.68	85.83	+ 1.20	...
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
031 222 4242				
America	268.40	278.80	+ 1.10	...
Bond	109.80	115.80	+ 0.20	7.28
Bal Sml Cos	94.66	100.70	+ 0.20	1.59
Conv & Cas ✓	89.94	98.82†	+0.28	5.51
Energy				
Europe	210.70	224.70†	+ 1.60	0.52
Euro Sml Cos	95.47	101.30†	+ 0.30	0.63
Income Gwth	329.90	352.10†	+ 0.90	4.59
Japan	318.30	338.60	– 0.20	...
Pacific	160.60	167.20	+ 0.40	0.74
UK Smaller Cos	49.99	53.15	+ 0.08	1.25
Japan Inc	727.30	772.50	+ 2.50	...
Mngd Fd	166.50	177.00	+ 0.40	2.96
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
071 488 6873				
Brit & Dmstc	259.50	265.70	...	1.29
Capital Gwth	104.70	110.20	...	2.44
Wrldw Opps	179.19	188.60	...	0.43
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
081 934 9544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bst Inv Fd Inc	326.10	341.80	+ 2.10	3.09
European Bd Inc	86.29	91.40	– 0.10	7.73
Exempt	70.52	74.90	+ 0.50	4.41
Financial	68.93	74.31	+ 0.34	3.07
50/50	422.50	451.80	+ 0.70	2.58
General	258.00	270.70	+ 1.10	2.98
Property	245.30	262.40t	...	6.31
Income	170.80	182.70t	+ 1.10	2.51
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.00	100.00	...	4.99
Extra Income	111.20	118.95	+ 0.53	4.30
Gilt 5 Fxd Int	53.86	57.73†	– 0.05	8.83
Income	321.20	338.20	+ 1.60	5.17
Income Builder	89.89	94.56	+ 0.17	4.97
Intl Income	59.38	63.19†	+ 0.12	3.72
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	161.86	170.50	+ 0.70	2.70
Dextra	1146.30	1214.40	+ 2.50	2.83
Smaller Cos Inc	41.14	44.12	+ 0.07	2.01
Special Sits	268.60	284.50	+ 1.30	1.53
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	119.20	125.50†	+ 0.10	0.71
Asia Acc	241.90	257.30	+ 0.90	2.34
Asia Inc	150.40	160.00†	+ 0.20	2.34
Euro Gwth Inc	142.30	150.90	+ 0.80	0.65
(Accum Units)	152.20	161.50	+ 0.90	0.65
Japan & Gen	176.60	187.30	+ 0.10	...
Japan Spec Sits	81.97	85.88	+ 0.07	...
Wor Tech Inc	75.80	80.55	+ 0.21	0.13
Worldwide	162.20	172.30	+ 0.50	0.77
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
081 858 9002				
American Growth	88.63	93.50	– 0.75	...
Asian Small Cos	121.89	129.40	...	...
Commodities	59.30	58.89t	– 0.07	1.63
Eastern	264.40	285.00	+ 2.90	0.10
Emrlty Income	85.04	90.45	+ 0.25	4.99
European Growth	279.60	298.40	+ 1.60	1.66
Europe	269.30	279.50t	+ 1.50	0.99
Generic Growth	68.34	72.41	+ 0.26	0.19
Global Bond	61.59	64.88	+ 0.05	6.46
Global Growth	118.80	127.80	+ 0.10	...
Japan Growth	269.90	218.80	+ 0.90	...
Japan Smaller	175.60	186.30	+ 1.30	...
Korea Trust	79.58	84.94	+ 0.28	...
Portfolio	128.08	134.70	+ 0.23	1.69
(Accum Units)	228.70	245.70	+ 0.39	1.69
UK Growth	78.99	84.60	+ 0.18	1.85
UK Smaller Cos	81.57	87.56	+ 0.19	1.89
Select Managers	71.04	76.05	+ 0.15	1.70
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
071 239 3000				
Intl Earth Pnt Inc	73.93	78.65	...	...
Special Opps Inc	54.09	57.45	...	...
BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD				
071 238 5441				
Special Sits	162.00	173.30	+ 1.0	1.62
Dividend	82.45	88.16	– 0.27	3.91
Int Gth & Inc	205.00	219.20	+ 1.40	...
UK & Gen	42.07	45.64	+ 0.17	3.58
Fund of Funds	81.29	86.49	+ 0.09	...
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD				
041 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	161.61	167.52	+ 2.31	1.78
(Accum Units)	114.22	120.67	+ 2.68	1.78
Smaller Cos	95.67	101.24†	+ 0.54	1.39
Higher yfield ✓	-62.77	45.35	+ 0.15	4.59
Ambition Bin Inc	68.59	72.37	+ 0.57	...
European Growth	127.17	134.58	+ 0.86	0.05
(Accum Units)	132.66	137.23	+ 0.89	0.05
Global Bond Inc ✓	72.65	77.39†	+ 0.02	6.99
Mngd Pfolio Inc	39.69	42.30	+ 0.18	1.65
(Accum Units)	40.56	42.80	+ 0.18	1.65
Int Spec Opps	109.78	116.17	+ 0.61	0.44
Pacific Gwth	124.07	131.29	+ 0.61	...
Formerly UAS				
UK Balanced ✓	76.83	74.69†	+ 0.30	3.54
(Accum Units) ✓	72.57	76.80	+ 0.31	3.54
Japan	65.91	67.21	– 0.01	...
Gilt & Fixed Int ✓	93.23	98.13†	– 0.11	7.31
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 480 7218				
Short Dated Gilt	64.48	66.32	– 0.03	6.31
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
061 837 5960				
Exempt	144.80	154.10†	+ 0.70	1.77
UK Growth	158.80	168.50	+ 1.10	2.30
UK Income	126.70	134.80	+ 0.60	4.49
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0707 651 122				
Can Gen Bnd	178.30	189.06	+ 0.60	2.16
-do- Income Dist	109.80	116.60	+ 0.10	4.54
(Accum Units)	313.30	332.10	+ 0.50	4.54
Gilt & Fxd Int	39.40	41.76	– 0.05	6.81
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
081 208 5865 Exp: 081 208 5865 Dlg: 081 208 5362				
American & Gen	142.90	152.10	+ 0.50	...
European Inc	73.58	77.92	+ 0.27	0.43
Smaller Cos (4-1)	73.30	77.96	+ 0.20	2.39
Growth	398.90	422.20	– 0.50	2.39
Income & Growth	394.30	408.90	+ 2.20	4.66
(Accum Units)	539.80	574.30	+ 0.20	4.66
Japan & Gen	72.65	77.10	+ 0.07	...
Master Portfolio	686.66	0432.80†	+ 15.00	1.98
(Accum Units)	1177.70	1122.30	+ 15.00	1.98
Special Sits	91.32	97.15	– 0.09	2.34
High Yield	£12.53	£12.72†	...	4.59
For Capital House see Newton				
CATENDVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
071 606 0788				
Compose Portfolio	79.97	85.30	...	2.31
American Portfolio	84.86	90.37†	...	1.22

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
European Portfolio	88.22	94.94	...	0.86
Japanese Portfolio	85.58	89.63	+ 0.13	...
Pacific Portfolio	137.80	147.50†	+ 0.02	0.69
UK Inc & Growth	72.41	77.76	...	3.58
Unity & Bond	54.03	54.85	...	7.07
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
071 588 1815				
Inv Fund	644.05	651.35	...	4.74
Fxd In Sec	148.35	148.49	...	9.77
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0273 202 5000				
UK General Tst	62.33	66.30	+ 0.06	3.82
CGM-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD				
071 588 1815				
Inc	636.68	643.24	...	4.74
Accum	1266.89	1279.70	...	9.50
Inc	120.70	120.96	...	...
(Accum Units)	185.70	186.17	...	...
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD				
071 637 7967				
Intl Growth	118.04	129.92†	...	...
UK Income	104.03	113.56†	...	5.298
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
071 407 5866				
Dedicated Inc	73.91	77.37	+ 0.07	1.55
Stock Mkt Tech	72.60	25.19†	...	1.06
Asian Ekstract Tst	144.80	152.30†	...	1.06
City Fin Assets	88.39	70.57	...	1.29
City Fin America	78.58	83.77	+ 0.08	...
City Fin Intl	74.91	78.75	+ 2.56	0.64
City Fin Japan	165.98	174.72†	+ 2.34	...
Prtns Hse Cap	269.42	281.37	...	1.85
Prtns Hse Inc	187.66	196.84	...	4.15
Buckley Yield Gth	127.34	135.47	+ 1.16	0.09
Financial Cap Gth	131.68	139.45t	...	...
Retirement Inv	145.26	152.51t	...	4.49
City Fin Pfio Inc	50.53	52.80†	...	...
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
071 711 0771 Admin: 0277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	56.05	59.46	– 0.39	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 370 585				
American Gwth	51.89	55.50	+ 0.20	...
Atlas Mngd Gwth	34.48	36.88	+ 0.07	0.39
Dragon Growth	66.92	71.57	+ 0.50	0.49
Equity High Inc	78.22	83.21t	+ 0.46	4.12
(Accum Units)	105.18	111.89	+ 0.68	4.12
European Gwth	47.58	50.64	+ 0.22	0.83
Evergreen	27.04	28.92	+ 0.18	...
General Equity	78.57	83.74	+ 0.07	2.70
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	24.23	25.46	+ 0.06	8.43
Japan Growth	51.52	54.85	+ 0.06	...
Pedigree Gwth	47.85	50.90	+ 0.06	2.76
Prd Shr Cos Inc	30.85	30.81	...	1.23
(Accum Units)	30.69	32.01	...	1.23
Retirement Inc ✓	24.78	26.36	– 0.01	4.04
Special Sits	35.84	38.57	+ 0.12	1.59
UK & Overseas	45.75	48.67	– 0.01	1.38
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 289 800				
Capital	53.42	57.82	+ 0.03	2.34
Income	57.25	61.33	+ 0.02	4.30
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
081 686 9878				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	148.15	158.67	– 0.31	5.65
Fixed & Convertible	38.64	41.11	+ 0.05	7.55
Monthly Inv Plus	47.45	50.48	– 0.01	6.80
Preference Shares	46.66	49.00	+ 0.12	7.48
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	117.95	125.48	– 1.26	7.43
Managed Fund	84.69	88.82	+ 0.09	3.66
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	38.99	39.35	+ 0.01	1.72
(Accum Units)	42.32	45.82	+ 0.02	1.72
UK & General	73.81	78.31	– 0.01	2.83
(Accum Units)	92.13	98.01	– 0.02	2.83
UK Growth	131.46	139.85	– 0.12	2.44
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	180.72	192.26	+ 1.31	0.36
Far Eastern Gwth	127.37	135.50	+ 0.96	...
Global Bond	74.86	79.59	+ 0.07	6.36
Japan Fund	127.77	136.54	+ 0.14	...
North Amer Gwth	154.04	163.87	+ 0.32	...
Oriental Growth	74.25	78.99	+ 0.03	...
Worldwide Growth	61.73	65.66	+ 0.03	0.98
(OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.31	92.31	+ 0.01	5.39
Homemaker Fund	73.76	78.47	...	1.92
Quilter Fund	121.82	129.58	– 0.07	3.89
CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD				
0436 744 948				
Equity Inc	55.85	58.88	+ 0.04	3.16
(Accum Units)	59.19	62.95	+ 0.04	3.16
High Income	32.85	34.66	+ 0.03	4.70
Japan	36.09	38.39	– 0.02	...
Pacific	38.94	41.42	+ 0.04	0.61
Smaller Cos Inc	28.04	29.79	+ 0.01	2.60
Smaller Cos	30.65	32.60	+ 0.04	2.60
North American	30.78	32.74	+ 0.12	0.50
European	35.12	37.36	+ 0.15	0.50
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
071 497 3988				
Consistent UT	29.27	31.40	...	3.44
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 356				
Growth	134.00	142.60	+ 1.30	2.19
Income	68.15	72.51	+ 0.05	5.10
European	58.18	61.90†	+ 0.19	1.14
Recovery	145.80	155.20	+ 1.30	2.32
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
071 283 9494				
Equity Dist	756.06	768.68†	...	3.80
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
0277 299 370				
Fellowship Tst	67.84	71.95	+ 0.33	1.37
Income ✓	223.00	237.88	...	4.90
(Accum Units) ✓	550.00	585.70	+ 0.10	4.90
Smaller Cos	148.00	155.30	+ 0.20	0.63
(Accum Units)	175.00	183.80	+ 0.20	0.63
Inv Portfolio	74.05	78.97	+ 0.04	3.49
High Inc Port ✓	85.25	89.41	– 0.29	5.08
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
071 410 0177				
Euro Small Cos	214.50	214.95†	...	...
Japan Small Cos	111.91	112.14†	...	...
UK Small Cos	216.80	217.56	...	...
US Small Cos	214.74	215.15†	...	...
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
071 377 8919.				
Disc Inc	192.70	202.90†	...	2.87
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
031 315 2580				
European Gwth	258.40	273.90	+ 1.60	1.02
Far Asia	208.20	218.20	+ 1.80	0.15
Japan Growth	119.60	127.50	+ 0.20	...
Jap Smlr Co	482.90	522.90	+ 2.10	...
Nth Amer	238.80	253.00	– 0.40	0.94
Stelhd Asia Pac Md	114.18	120.56	– 0.80	0.37
UK Inc & Gwth	200.50	214.00	– 0.20	3.11
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
0242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	152.40	140.80	+ 0.80	1.90
UK High Inc Inc	140.50	149.50	+ 0.80	4.82
(Accum Units)	178.90	191.40	+ 1.00	4.82
Pref Int & Fi Inc	58.09	59.47	+ 0.08	5.27
Emerald Opps	79.07	84.12	+ 0.54	1.11
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 528				
American	113.40	120.30	– 0.80	1.45
Convertibles ✓	19.73	20.98†	+ 0.01	6.98
Equity Income ✓	147.70	125.10†	+ 0.80	4.24
Extra Fund	42.75	45.36	+ 0.24	0.44
Financial	42.29	44.89	+ 0.30	2.57
Growth & Inc ✓	219.50	233.00	+ 0.30	3.39
High Dist ✓	144.80	153.80†	...	4.98
International	377.40	401.00	+ 0.50	0.12
Int Cap Inc	30.19	99.28	+ 0.26	3.86
Latin American	41.54	44.14	+ 2.60	...
Pacific	90.80	95.64	+ 0.84	...
Preference Share	21.91	23.28	– 0.01	7.09
Yield	227.20	241.40	+ 0.18	...
UK Smaller Cos	212.00	225.20	+ 0.66	1.22
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
071 242 0242				
Elcon Trust	200.72	214.48	– 2.08	0.53
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 373 7291				
Endurance Fd	190.40	202.50	...	0.85
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0256 451 488				
European	73.21	78.17	+ 0.56	1.67
Global Tst	42.75	45.60	+ 0.22	1.27
Far Eastern	120.09	128.20	+ 0.92	0.37
High Income	123.70	130.21†	– 0.04	4.98
Intl Growth	115.76	121.57	...	1.49
North American	169.54	169.09	– 0.49	1.34
Pacific	110.78	118.61	+ 0.36	3.26
Smaller Cos	82.85	88.62†	+ 0.50	1.64
Special Sits	83.25	87.74	+ 0.17	2.59
Tst of Inv Tsts	177.84	187.20	– 0.13	1.55
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 407 5995				
Smaller Cos Inc	184.0	202.90	+ 0.32	1.45
Smaller Cos Acc	338.46	359.60	+ 0.58	1.45
Recovery	48.46	51.50†	+ 0.18	1.39
Recovery Acc	90.02	95.10†	+ 0.18	1.39
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0392 412 144				
Balanced	108.46	113.25†	+ 0.66	5.14
Capital Growth	77.56	83.17	– 0.14	...
Fd of Inv Tsts	43.46	45.29	– 0.02	0.63
High Income ✓	42.84	45.91	+ 0.01	10.02
Warrant	53.94	59.52	+ 0.01	...
Zero Preference	95.80	98.69†	+ 0.02	...
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
0272 239 707				
Family Asset Tst	72.59	77.22	+0.050	2.39
Family Income Tst	45.01	45.81	+0.040	8.02
Family Trust	80.00	85.20	+0.170	1.18
United Charities	240.40	255.90	+0.300	3.19
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Chelfidel: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	...	5.40
Cash Fund				
Special Funds				
Intl Bond	36.66	37.99	+ 0.05	5.23
Income Funds				
High Income	24.36	25.69†	...	5.29
Income Plus	105.30	112.00†	...	6.46
Asset Gr Inc	44.01	46.67	– 0.17	3.46
European Income	39.75	42.27	+ 0.04	3.52
Far East Inc	40.80	0.4731	+ 0.35	2.18
Global Convertible	21.82	23.26†	...	3.86
UK Dlr Gilt	22.98	24.44	– 0.01	1.94
Equity Funds				
Capital	91.72	95.94	+ 0.98	...
Accm Inc	224.08	237.50	...	...
Amer Spec Sits	106.80	114.00	+ 0.40	...
Japan Smaller Cos	39.48	42.12	+ 0.17	...
European	139.10	148.30	+ 0.61	...
European Opps	39.88	39.44	+ 0.37	...
Global Pfio	23.34	24.90	+ 0.11	1.22
UK Growth	84.01	89.66	+ 0.05	...
Growth & Inc	132.48	141.40	– 0.23	2.57
Intl PEP	94.83	97.94	+ 0.66	...
Japan Spec Sits	96.95	96.84	+ 0.67	...
Japan	194.40	207.10	+ 0.40	...
Managed Intl	260.00	277.20	+ 1.10	...
Moneybuilder	50.12	53.39	+ 0.15	...
Recovery	45.18	48.04	+ 0.13	...
South E Asia	139.60	149.00	+ 1.00	...
Special Sits	417.70	588.00	+ 0.70	...
Specialist Funds				
Opps Accum Units	107.52	107.52	+ 0.01	5.40
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 814 3760				
Balanced ✓	131.40	134.59	+ 2.80	1.58
Inc Pfolio ✓	81.86	83.27†	– 0.19	3.60
Cap Pfolio	135.80	138.40†	...	0.76
General Opps	116.50	119.00	+ 2.40	3.52
Growth Inc	29.02	29.80†	+ 0.60	1.51
Private Portfolio	361.00	369.00	+ 4.40	1.52
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Emg: 071 454 1494 Dlg: 0277 291 010				
Flgns Foreign & Colonial				
European	106.35	112.60	+ 0.80	0.55
Emrg Asian	160.50	171.70	+ 1.70	...
High Income	20.79	22.02†	– 0.03	10.18
Dpsns Income	85.26	89.40†	– 0.12	3.00

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Growth	102.70	109.90	...	1.70
UK Income	99.42	106.00	...	4.34
US Smaller Cos	270.30	288.70	+ 1.10	...
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0306 885 991 Dealing: 0765 601340 Enqs: 0765 601340				
FF Emrg Mkt	361.70t	384.70†	+ 2.10	2.69
-do- Accum	763.80	812.50†	+ 4.40	2.69
FF Euro Gth Dist	134.76	143.20	+ 0.99	0.25
-do- Accum	148.40	148.30	+ 0.80	0.25
FF Fixed Int Dist	128.10	136.30†	+ 0.30	6.53
-do- Accum	254.70	247.99†	– 0.20	6.53
FF Int Gth Dist	88.83	94.50†	+ 0.61	0.59
-do- Accum	92.81	98.67†	+ 0.61	0.59
FF Mkt Aware Dist	178.20	189.70	– 0.60	1.20
-do- Accum	185.

Equities advance in late trading

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
523	380½	Abbey Nat	426½	+ 4½	4.6	14.3
314	233	Allied Irish	258	..	4.9	9.9
278½	171	Aus New Z	206	+ 1	6.0	..
3300	2462½	Bank America	2812½	- 37½	..	..
247	172½	Bank Scotland	208	- 2	3.2	11.7
640	487	Barclays	614	+ 4	3.4	18.9
319	246	Bk of Ireland	289	+ 1	5.0	8.4
2812½	2362½	Citicorp	2762½	+ 62½	..	..
285½	203	Close Bros	229	..	4.1	..
£150½	£121¼	Commerzbk	£133½	+ 284¾	6.1	..
1297½	1056½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1206½	+ 6½	0.5	..
£344¾	£270½	Deutsche Bk	£295¼	+ 187½	3.3	..
1315¾	787½	Espirito Santo	819¾	..	4.7	4.1
90	58½	First Nat Fin	58½	- ½	3.2	..
1549¾	1152½	Fuji Bank Y	1376½	+ 2¾	0.4	..
473	209	Hambros†	231	...	8.1	14.2
1113	660	HSBC	718	+ 8	4.3	10.4
1133	664	HSBC HK	711	+ 10	4.3	10.3
443	400	Joseph (L)†	408	- 2	5.4	11.9
693	424	Kleinwort Ben	549	+ 1	4.4	9.7
660	518	Lloyds	574½	+ 7½	5.0	11.3
620½	472	Nat Aust Bk	517	- 5	7.1	..
622	421	Nat West	514½	+ 2½	4.7	9.6
3300	2100	Ottoman Bank	2150	..	6.8	..
79	53	Rea Bros	63	+ 2	1.9	17.7
528	377½	Ryl Bk Scott	407	- 8	4.2	9.8
1574	1050	Schroders	1453	..	1.6	13.3
1458	1043	Schroders NV	1315	..	1.8	12.0
114	75	Singer & Fried	86	..	4.6	11.1
359½	223	Stand Chart	266	+ 2	3.8	9.8
291	197	TSB	238	+ 2	4.2	13.0
1012	569	Warburg SG	668	- 3	4.0	12.6
£105	8612½	Wells Fargo	9447½	+ 56¾	2.9	..
280	194	Westpac	213½	- 1½	2.6	..
390	203	Wintrust	213	..	6.0	14.2

BREWERIES

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1025	150	Ascot Hldgs	155	+ 5	..	..
619	485	Bass†	519	+ 2	5.1	13.1
299	248	Boddington	257	+ 1	4.0	13.8
196	168	Burtonwd Brwt	177	..	3.6	14.8
181	142	Eldridge P 'A'	158	- 1	3.3	..
66	46¾	Fosters Brewing	58	..	9.1	..
493	342	Fuller Sm 'A'†	344	..	2.9	14.2
511	399	Greenalls Grp	434	- 8	3.8	21.1
584	452	Greene King	515	..	3.2	14.2
265	239	Hardy Hanson	245	+ 5	4.9	..
170	135	Heavitree	150	..	3.4	13.5
3773	3135	Holt J	3388	..	1.8	18.8
246	195	Mansfield†	236	..	2.5	14.4
314	256	Merston Thmpt	302	+ 2	2.5	14.7
545	455	Morland†	465	..	2.9	14.0
10¾	6½	Paramount	7	..	3.6	..
303	209	Regent Inns	299	+ 1	2.5	22.9
1665¾	1000	SA Breweries†	1456½	..	2.0	22.5
591	477	Scot & New	508	+ 1	4.3	14.4
306	220	Vaux Group†	221	+ 1	5.6	14.0
439	324½	Wetherspoon JD	437	+ 3	1.9	24.1
617	494	Whitbread†	567	+ 2	4.2	15.5
589	493	Wolvrhmptn Dt	517	+ 1	3.4	13.6
194	148	Yates Brost	188	..	2.5	14.8
535	465	Young 'A'	465	..	4.0	19.7

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
305	130	Abbey	130	..	5.0	9.5
200	148	Allen†	161	..	4.3	19.1
164	64½	Amec†	67	..	6.6	38.7
165	47	Andrews Sykes	137	- 2½	..	..
462	333	Ashtead	430	..	1.6	26.6
191	101	Avonside	104	..	5.3	12.2
41	26	Bailey (Ben) Con	34½	+ ½	2.5	27.1
88	18½	Barcom	41	..	..	..
292	139	Barratt Devs	161	+ 3	4.7	12.5
169	122½	Beazer Homes	133	..	5.1	10.5
304	179	Bellway†	186	+ 1	4.7	..
59	31	Bellwinch	32	..	..	28.1
572	326	Berkeley Gp†	342	..	2.6	14.2
215	118	Bett Brost	179	..	3.1	5.5
355	210	Bost (Harry)	218	..	3.8	10.7
93	35	Brandon Hire	90	- 3	2.1	..
235	160	Br Bldg & Engt	160	..	6.2	10.0
197½	118	Bryant	124	- 1	5.0	13.9
145¾	106	CALA	106	..	3.3	14.6
54	31	Campbell & Arm	34½	+ ..	..	..
62	44	Clarke T	49	..	3.2	41.6
42	20½	Costain	21	- ½	..	..
185	108	Countryside	110	..	4.9	..
120	73	Crest Nicholson	74	..	2.7	11.7
140	98	Cussins	98	..	4.3	11.8
20	17	Edmond Hldgs	17½	..	2.1	..
473	288	Eve Group	288	- 2	4.8	11.6
60	24	Galliford	26	..	4.8	..
112	82	Gibbs & Dandy	88	..	3.8	..
1028	823	Gleeson (MJ)†	838	..	2.1	14.2
86	71	Green (Ernst)	86	..	8.7	26.5
191	121	Havelock Europ	175	..	2.1	16.0
169	138	Headen-Stuart	140	..	2.7	16.1
144	86	Higgs & Hill	93	+ 1	3.4	..
32	20	Howard Hldgs	22	..	4.5	20.5
25	6	Jarvis	11	..	..	..
138	104	Keller	112	..	4.2	13.0
429	204	Laing (J)	221	..	5.1	20.0
164	90½	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	94	+ ½	8.9	..
135	115	Lon Clydeside	122	..	4.9	16.9
173	53	Lovell (YJ)	60	- 1	2.1	6.5
253	196	Maunders (J)	208	- 2	3.3	..
321	154	McAlpine (A)	171	+ 8	4.8	25.1
76½	50½	McCarthy & S	60	..	..	..
185½	94	Mowlem (J)	100	+ 1	2.6	..
379½	182	Persimmon	195	+ 3	5.9	14.6
2109¾	1450	Pochin	2109½	..	1.9	21.1
198	125	Prowting†	135	..	3.6	19.0
116	44½	Raine Ind	47	- 1	8.0	9.8
61	45	Secure Retire	46	..	..	14.9
132	94	Redrow	104	- 1	3.2	10.3
67	50	Swift-Rive	58	..	1.6	23.3
385	223	Sheriff Hldgs	284	- 1	1.9	..
112	62½	Shurco	109	- 1	4.2	15.3
245	195	Smart (J)	210	..	5.1	22.0
290	155½	Snandert	255	..	1.2	20.5
257	151	Tay Homes	164	..	4.9	12.1
183	114½	Taylor Woodrw	130	..	1.6	31.8
760	538	Tilbury Dougls	568	+ 3	7.3	43.5
60	36	Totes Hire	55	..	2.0	28.7
40½	20	Try Group	20	- 1	3.1	..
129	90	Vibroplant†	109	..	4.3	19.6
170	115	Wainhomes†	117	..	5.2	12.6
74	43	Ward Hldgs	51	..	1.2	..
229½	132	Westbury†	139	..	4.9	12.6
7½	3½	Wiggins	5½	..	..	..
259	154	Wilson (C)	162	- 2	3.3	13.5
571	312	Wilson Bowden	324	..	3.7	14.5
249	125	Wimpey G	130	- 2	5.0	19.4

BUILDING MATERIALS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
27	12	Albrighton	14	..	4.5	13.3
341	283	Alumasc	338	..	2.3	..
65¾	43½	Amberley Gp	49	..	3.2	26.7
352	274	BPB Indt	287	..	3.7	14.7
142	95	Baggeridge Brk	124	..	3.2	..
60	30	Barton	31	+ 1	8.1	..
244	125	Benford Ind	#228	..	0.3	..
93	58	Blockleys	67	..	1.7	..
391	262	Blue Circle	287	+ 5	4.9	20.4
117	72	Breedon PLC	79	..	2.3	22.5
154	128	Br Dredging	130	..	5.4	15.6
409	321	CRH	344	+ 7	2.8	17.5
70	31	Cakebread Rby	38	..	..	4.1
278	198	Capel	203	..	6.8	12.9
456	324	Caradon	355	- 7	4.3	16.9
215¾	114	Caradon pf	130	- 2½	7.0	..
62	46	Chieftain Gp	54	..	8.1	10.8
134	89	Dyson (J&J)	112	..	3.9	16.9
97	61	Dyson 'A'	72	..	6.1	10.8
12½	4½	Eclipse Blinds	12½	+ ½	..	..
350	273	Epwin	275	..	3.6	18.3
82	57	Erith	58	..	3.0	32.7
218	168	Graham Grp	170	+ 1	3.4	16.2
399	337	Halstead (J)	341	- 1	2.7	15.7
511	284	Hepworth	319	+ 3	5.8	18.1
88	46	Heverson	85	..	2.2	14.7
206	85	Heath (J)	135	..	2.2	..
473	257	Hewden Stuart	366	..	6.3	15.0
100	67	Ibstock	78	..	1.6	..
294	149	Johnston	262	..	2.1	31.5
170	108	Lilleshall	108	..	5.4	11.3
213½	129	Marley	131	..	4.0	15.5
155	126	Marshalls	134	..	4.2	11.8
569	343	Meyer Intl	361	+ 2	3.8	13.7
196	146	Newman Tnks	165	+ 1	4.9	20.8
212½	102	Nescot	107	- 3	8.2	20.3
20	9	Phoenix Timber	11	..	..	..
202	155	Pilkington	164	..	3.0	31.6
185	126	Polypipe	131	..	2.2	15.1
1079	805	RMC Gp	956	- 4	2.6	19.1
40	16	Ramus	17	..	..	..
640	425½	Redland	452	- 1	6.8	21.2
108	70	Rasell	98	..	5.5	..
185½	102½	Rugby Group	122	+ 2	3.5	15.4
107	62	Russell (A)	89	..	3.2	18.3
295	225	SIG	255	..	2.2	20.5
21	16	SMP	16½	..	1.5	23.0
200	155	Sharpe & Fisher	179	+ 2	3.1	15.1
81½	30	Streng Ram	40	- 1	1.6	..
208	113	Tarmac	124½	+ ½	5.5	..
220	160	Tilcon	161	..	3.6	..
370	274	Travis Perkins	285	..	3.6	17.6
29	21	Tudor	23	..	1.3	..
54	33	Unigroup	36	..	..	..
63	35	Waterhouse	48	..	..	..
139	87	Wickes	89	- 1	1.8	30.0
975	705	Wolseley†	776	+ 13	2.7	15.2

BUSINESS SERVICES

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3¼	1½	Anglo Utd	2	..	..	..
110	73	App Pozo	85	..	..	..
165	102	Attwoods†	117	- 1	5.3	..
11	6½	Bailey (CH)	6½	..	..	..
49	30	Black Arrow	47	- 2	8.2	7.5
124	70	Br Bloodstock	77	..	..	69.1
13	5½	Cala Gp	5½	..	..	16.0
10½	4½	Cherma	6¾	..	1.9	..
157	109	Cropper	140	..	7.1	9.9
237	189	Fiotex	217	..	1.2	18.6
50	29	Hedway	44	..	2.0	34.2
292	224	Huntleigh	258	+ 1	3.6	..
248	162	Leigh	162	..	6.0	15.0
274	214	Nobo Gp	223	..	3.4	14.2
310	207	Photo-Me†	260	+ 4	2.3	27.1
60	38	Plant & Gent	58	..	3.9	..
185	82	Plaxbrook	173	..	2.5	20.4
12½	5	Porch Group	5	..	..	..
51½	5½	Rooma	11½	..	..	..
135	78	Shaws & McEwan	84	+ 2	3.1	..
244	174	Sinclair (Wm)	183	..	4.9	14.1
700	350	Wace Mkt Intl	375	- 3	..	14.2

CHEMICALS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
156½	115½	Allied Colloids	129	+ 1	2.3	18.1
790	705	Amber Indt	780	..	3.4	15.5
£140¾	£106½	BASF DM	£125¾	+ 140¾	3.7	..
767	627	BOC†	712	..	4.4	26.9
373	261	BTP†	287	- 1	4.5	18.2
£160½	£125½	Bayer DM50	£143½	- 181½	3.1	..
151	99	Brent Chem	107	..	4.7	..
309	219	Br Vita	239	+ 1	4.1	17.0
25	18	Cambridge Isc	19	..	..	..
159	153	Canning (W)	183	..	5.0	31.0
590	426	Courtaulds†	447	+ 3	4.2	30.5
389	322	Croda	385	+ 2	2.8	16.5
143	95	Doeflex	133	..	4.3	13.4
[illegible]	35½	Euro Colour	58½	..	[illegible]	[illegible]
129	110	Gibbons	122	- 2	5.7	11.0
223	105	Hickson	114	- 12	8.8	10.2
£153¼	£106¾	Hoechst	£131	- 81¾	2.8	..
250	151½	Holliday Chem	202	..	2.7	18.6
868	737	ICI	767½	+ 5½	4.5	62.0
191½	108	Kalon	113½	+ 4	4.8	10.9
845	675	Laporte	699	+ 2	3.8	17.7
95	49	MTM	80	..	0.8	..
465	290	Manders	292	..	4.3	14.2
127	100	McLeod Russell	113	..	6.9	..
128	61	Metrolect	67	..	6.4	9.1
679½	357½	Montedison	445½	+ 2½	4.4	[illegible]
[illegible]	265	Porvair	290	..	1.9	21.8
272	196	Scapa	192	..	3.9	15.6
66	29	Scottish Speal	32	..	2.8	18.9
852½	656	Takeda Chem	757	- 6½	0.8	14.1
490	325	Wardle Storeys	336	- 3	6.4	18.7
230	191	Wellington Hdg	191	..	3.4	16.5
623	570	Wolstenholme R	590	- 3	3.0	16.5
403	345	Yorks Chem	355	- 1	2.9	15.3
336	258	Yule Catto	279	- 1	2.9	21.2

DISTRIBUTORS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
127	105	ABI Leist	105	..	4.8	..
300	248	Acatt	299	..	2.9	16.2
585	253	Adam & Harvey	585	..	3.3	7.3
31	21	Alexanders	21	...	3.0	19.5
175	113	Appleyard	113	..	6.4	19.9
5	3½	Ass Br Eng	4½	..	1.4	58.8
578	495	BSS Group	514	..	4.4	18.1
25½	17	Beaton Power†	21	..	6.0	..
405	249	Bletchley Mtr	360	..	6.0	10.7
40	28	Bogod 'A'	28	..	3.1	9.6
370	288	Brammer	349	+ 1	4.7	19.4
31	15½	Bridgend Grp	16	..	1.6	..
99	76	Bnl Fittings	87	+ 3	3.2	..
71	40	Brown & Tawse	40	..	..	..
57	35	Burndene	37	..	6.7	..
465	245	Caffyns†	258	..	5.4	18.1
59	24½	Camel Plc	36½	..	5.2	14.7
130	84	Central Mtr	88	..	5.0	21.8
51	32½	Cook (DC)†	39	..	3.7	12.0
342½	197½	Cowie	215	..	5.3	10.7
192½	127	Dag Motors	138	..	5.9	15.9
663	446	Denmans El	593	..	1.4	16.6
628	414½	Diploma†	424½	..	4.0	..
589	443	Electrocomps†	472	- 2	2.7	19.3
175	133	Electron House	153	+ 3	2.6	15.8
283	225	Ellis & Everard	262	..	3.6	19.4
234	201	Eurodis	204	..	5.2	16.0
173	106	European Mtr	109	..	5.2	11.8
539¾	395	Evans Halshaw	400	..	4.3	12.6
658	490½	Farnell Elect	522	- 2	1.9	21.4
78	50	Fife Indmar	61	..	5.6	9.0
34	16	Gardiner	16	..	5.9	7.6
46	19	Glencheston	19½	..	..	21.5
90	60	Gowrings	73	..	3.4	22.7
76	59	Hatton Hldge	72	- 1	..	56.2
161	132	Harris (Philip)†	145	..	5.9	12.7
342½	266½	Henlys	272	- ½	3.4	14.6
197	88	Holders Tech	92	..	8.2	10.0
138	110	ISA Intl	110	..	1.9	13.7
609	395	Inchcape†	439	- 5	4.3	14.6
68	35	Jacks (Wm)	58	..	..	13.4
184	145	Kwik-Fit	161	+ 3	3.1	18.5
573	291	Lex Service	293	..	5.7	11.2
282	162	Lookers	194	..	4.4	12.1
30	14	Molayd Grp	14½	..	2.2	..
9	3½	Middlecox	8	..	..	..
440	279	Norcros	422	+ 2	0.7	20.2
100	47	Northamber†	91	..	1.8	38.6
175	152	PCT	152	..	6.1	14.7
310	232	Pendragon	253	..	3.7	16.6
238	161	Perry Gd	161	..	5.4	6.8
218	131	Quicks Group	131	..	5.0	13.8
163	97	REA	158	..	4.7	32.7
5¾	2¾	Reece	2¾	..	..	..
24	4	Reco Co	5	..	5.0	..
42	32½	SEP Ind	34	..	3.9	..
44	31	TLS Range	40	+ 2	3.1	16.1
265	215	Time Products†	231	- 4	4.7	15.5
221	151	Vardy (Reg)	151	..	3.8	14.3
335	245	Wholesale Ftgs	245	..	6.0	..
30½	13½	Willis Gp	19	- ½	3.3	10.7
71	38½	Wichtart	69	- 1½	1.2	23.1
68	40	Wyko	58	..	1.1	..
96	61	Young (H)†	68	..	6.6	..

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
202	148	Adwest	156	- 1	6.0	15.9
380	199½	Antofagasta	338	..	1.3	27.3
62	48	Armour†	48½	..	4.6	10.1
988	773½	Broken Hill	959	+ 7	2.3	37.0
401	273	BTR	286½	- 1	5.5	15.1
570	372	BATT	443	..	5.8	11.6
91	49	Bisby (J)†	69	+ 3	5.4	..
57½	44	Brierley Inv	48½	+ 2	9.3	..
836	636½	Charter†	794	- 7	3.6	22.6
385	226½	Cookson	235	- 2	3.5	21.3
302	217½	Hanson†	232½	- 2½	6.5	16.0
320	142	Hansen Crsfd	142	- 2	7.9	16.2
365½	239½	Hutch Whamp	366½	+ 5½	2.1	18.9
710	409½	Jardine Math	458½	- 9¾	3.2	10.4
36	27½	Jourdan (T)†	29	..	4.3	38.8
175½	124½	Lonrho	149	- ½	3.4	40.9
44	16	Porter Chadburn	41	..	..	..
705	513	Powell Duffryn†	520	- 1	6.2	14.8
164	118½	Regnert	128	..	7.3	14.5
489	335	Rothmans	458	- 1	5.2	22.2
34½	9½	Salisea	12	..	..	4.6
163½	105	Sime Darby▼	135	+ 2	3.2	17.2
267	171	Staveley†	171	- 2	6.2	50.0
170	156	Suter	156	..	7.5	15.0
268	220	TT Group	245	+ 2	2.2	..
293	392	Tomkins	214	- 1	4.3	13.7
124	69	Trafalgar H	75	+ 1	1.7	..
440	245	Unitas	295	..	3.6	15.2
324	267½	Wassall	277	- 1	1.6	22.8
13½	9½	Wichan	10	..	2.6	..
414½	309	Williams Hldg	322	+ 1	5.1	19.9

ELECTRICITY

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
894½	610½	East Midlands	826	- 14	4.2	34.4
866	566	Eastern Grp	765	- 6	4.1	16.6
776	534	London Elect	747	- 15	4.2	11.3
882	635	Manweb	838	- 16	4.1	9.9
845½	547	Midlands Elec	791	- 13	4.0	12.0
530	404½	National Power†	482	+ 3	3.4	13.2
1065	589	Northern Elec	1000	- 2	3.4	12.4
421	329	Nthn Ireland	360	- 2	4.2	9.7
850	587	Norweb†	829	- 3	3.7	10.9
602	449	PowerGen	526	+ 5	3.3	11.4
477	307	Hydro-Elec	316	- 3½	5.2	9.9
486	325	Scottish Power	336	- 3½	4.8	10.5
480	299	Seeboard†	443	- 6	3.5	11.8
881	591	Sth Wales	852	- 4	4.3	11.4
875	551	Sth Western	867	+ 10	3.7	11.4
837	540	Southern Elec	770	- 3	4.0	11.1
795	530	Yorkshire Elec	687	- 2	4.5	13.2

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
109	63	Acorn Comp	98	..	..	..
650	478	Admiral	635	..	1.3	19.5
200	163	Alba	200	+ 2	3.2	15.6
350	126½	Amstrad	135	..	2.3	..
39	24	Arlen	36	+ 1	..	..
94½	78	Aotec	84½	+ ½	1.3	17.3
281	118	Azlan†	134	..	2.8	10.8
479	325	BICC†	340	+ 6	6.9	22.0
293	239	Bestec Hunter	244	..	5.0	..
16	7	Berkeley Bus	8	..	..	..
535	402	Blick	426	+ 1	3.4	..
380	280	Bowthorpe	290	..	3.0	16.7
21½	14½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	19	+ ½	1.6	11.1
293	203	CML Micro	204	..	3.7	13.0
36¼	20	Chloride†	22	+ ¼	0.6	61.6
190	81	Copymore†	110	- 70	4.9	..
202	148½	Gray Elect	164	+ ½	1.7	19.1
467	412	Crichley†	461	- 1	2.3	19.4
388	269	Danka Bs Syst	330	+ 7	0.6	24.2
586	430	Delta	449	- 5	4.1	19.2
560	400	Domino	554	..	1.9	23.8
78	63	Dowding Mills	70	+ 1	4.6	25.5
1635	1220	Druck	1465	..	0.9	27.3
3756½	2300	Electrolux 'B'	3228½	+ 40¾	1.7	54.8
38½	21	Emess	29½	..	0.4	..
4040¾	2737½	Ericsson 'B'	3490½	- 50	1.1	30.2
86	56	Eurocopy	70	..	3.6	..
451	343	Eurotherm	400	..	1.7	..
403	334½	Farey Group	394	- 1	2.0	20.8
283	180	Forward Grp	190	..	3.6	11.7
58	14½	Forward Tech	41	..	2.3	8.5
353½	259	GEC†	275½	- 2	5.0	13.8
191	102	Gestetner	115	+ 4	2.6	..
191	119	Graseby	138	..	5.4	13.0
193	121	Ind Control	138	..	4.5	11.6
385	319	Kenwood App	319	- 2	3.7	15.6
890	730	Kershaw (A)	885	..	3.9	40.7
165	38	Kode	54	- 4	9.3	..
55	44	LPA Ind	44	..	4.5	..
320	250	MITE Ires	300	+ 1	1.8	18.1
281	210	Memec-Sw	250	..	2.1	19.5
45	31	Microvitec	35½	..	..	17.8
494	185	Misys	208	- 8	..	..
148	109	Murray Ent▼	116	..	3.3	..
31	19	Oriel	21	..	3.7	..
91	60	Pacer Systems	60	..	7.4	21.7
98	74½	Peek†	81	..	5.2	20.4
2175	1400	Philips Lmp av	1906½	- 21½	1.0	8.7
£115	9750	Philips Fn 4%	£110	..	5.2	..
359	293	Pifco	352	- 1	1.6	24.1
344	283	Pifco 'A' Vtg	329	- 2	1.7	22.5
140	70	Plasmec	120	..	3.9	..
129	90	Prestac▼	95	..	3.7	18.3
45¾	17¾	Prestwood	24	..	..	..
303	181	Psion	251	+ 1	1.4	17.6
261	187	Racal Elect	212	- 5	2.7	17.4
53	33	Rosemnt	45	..	5.3	13.3
311	226	Ruston	234	- 1	3.3	17.1
69	15	Scanbrnd	33	..	5.3	..
49	32	Silvermines	38	..	2.7	22.6
94	61	Southbrks	62	..	4.8	14.1
104	38	Stm Bus	44	+ 1	10.6	5.9
19	9	TDS Circuits	9½	..	..	..
3225	2265¾	TDK	3021½	- 18¾	1.1	..
447	264	Tadpole Tech	269	+ 1	..	..
170	77	Telemetrix	79	+ 2	1.6	10.1
101	51	TGI	93	+ 2	3.0	17.3
360	191	Telspec	300	+ 3	0.9	41.5
246	133	Thorpe FW	233	+ 1	1.7	17.1
43	32	Total Systems	36	..	..	27.3
303	215	Tunstall	253	..	1.9	..
364	256	Unitech	351	..	2.3	27.3
16	8½	Verity	9	..	..	24.2
483	382	Volex	382	..	6.0	16.0
200	60	Wakebourne	79	- 1	..	..
162	93	Whitecroft	161	..	2.2	17.7

ENGINEERING

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
185	119	AIM	168	..	3.3	44.8
138	56	APV	56	- 1	9.6	..
220	151	ASW	215	..	3.7	..
126	20½	Aero Hamble	31	..	15.1	3.1
21½	13	Aerospace Eng	16½	- ½	5.8	36.1
73	27½	Alvis	41	..	3.4	..
175	143	Ash & Lacy	145	..	5.6	14.8
553	410	Atlas Equip	553	..	5.0	18.4
125	66	Avonside Metal	121	..	1.5	14.8
51	24½	BM Gp	45½	+ ½	..	..
48¾	36	Babcock	39	+ 1	..	..
176	132	BWIT	135	..	6.2	20.7
88	64	Baynes (Charles)	82	..	2.7	21.0
95	22	Beauford	38	+ 2	..	..
226	110	Bolam (J)	111	..	6.0	5.9
329	262	Boxmore	311	..	2.2	21.2
75	43	Booth Inds	73	+ 3	..	..
20	15	Brasway	15½	..	4.3	15.5
171	120	Bridport	157	..	3.2	..
578½	386½	Br Aerospace	426	- 2	2.6	37.4
172½	121½	Br Steel†	157	..	2.8	19.0
125	86½	Bromsgrove Ind	92	..	6.1	11.7
18½	9½	Brooke Tool	12½	..	..	..
186	135	Bullough	158	..	4.8	20.0
79	55	Burnfield	72	..	3.7	30.9
22	14	Cl Group	14	..	3.7	..
293	247	Cardo Eng	260	..	4.4	17.0
155	110	Castings†	144	..	2.5	17.7
230	150	Chamberlin Hill	150	..	5.6	9.5
360	272	Chemring	293	+ 1	4.3	..
296½	180	Clyde Blowers†	181	..	3.1	..
305	235	Concentric	335	+ 6	2.9	16.7
688	490	Cohen (A)	535	..	0.8	..
263	178	Concentric	185	..	4.2	..
310	233	Cook (Wm)†	241	- 3	3.9	11.3
296	198	Dand Broan	218	- 1	2.8	15.4
97	70	Dobson Park	70	- 1½	6.9	..
442	364	EIS†	380	..	4.1	15.3
101	69	Elliott (B)†	99	- 1	2.5	14.6
118	60	Expamet	89	..	3.7	63.1
212	145	FKI	145	- 5	3.6	16.8
148	109	Fenner†	139	+ 1	1.4	64.2
45	35	Firth	26	..	..	..
88	73	GEI Intl	77	+ 3	4.1	14.1
131	91	Garton Eng	121	..	4.8	..
404	321	Glynwed	331	- 3	4.1	19.5
14½	10	Gravistone	12½	..	2.4	10.6
85	61	Haden Maclellan	76	..	3.3	19.6
131	93	Hadleigh	128	..	3.4	14.5
320	143	Hall Eng	163	..	6.2	12.8
256	204	Halma	215	..	1.5	25.2
73	47	Hampson Ind	56	..	4.6	10.4
48	26	Hay (Norman)	26	..	..	..
184½	132	Hill & Smith	134	..	5.4	14.5
63	38	Holmcrest	52	..	3.1	..
41	27	Hew Gp	33½	+ 2	3.8	..
103	78	Howden	87	..	3.5	14.3
266	157	Hunting	170	..	7.4	24.3
513	402	Huntingdon Tec	430	+ 5	1.5	30.0
379	286	IMI	315	- 3	4.0	26.8
51	37½	Johnson & FB	41½	..	..	..
628	488	Johnson Matt	543½	- 4½	2.8	20.3
32	25	Jones Stroud	30	...	..	..
330	250	Kelsey Ind	292	..	3.4	..
265	205	Laird	264	..	3.3	16.5
20½	11	Locker (T) 'A'	11	..	4.5	..
49	35	ML Hldgs†	35	..	4.1	12.2
67	36	MS Intl	36	..	7.2	15.7
179	129	Mang Bronze	137	..	3.6	10.7
539	381½	McKechnie†	387	..	4.8	22.8
120	71½	Meggitt	76½	..	6.4	12.9
120	101	Mellar	104	..	4.5	17.3
133	99	Metoc	131	..	2.9	18.2
589	455	Molins	495	- 3	4.0	10.0
408	308	Morgan Cruc	308	- 2	5.2	15.0
217	176	Morris Ashby	205	..	3.8	14.6
51	34	Neepsend†	34	- 1	4.6	17.1
128	51	Nedronics	51	..	6.4	11.0
60	45	Newmark (L)	45	..	..	..
59½	39	Old Intl▼	39½	..	5.5	..
358	277	Oxford Inst	334	- 4	1.9	19.6
341	218	Powerscreen†	248	..	3.8	10.4
23½	13½	Prospect Indst	14	..	7.6	7.2
108	60	Radiant Metal	73	..	..	..
71	13	Ransomes	60	+ 1	..	..
95	70	Record	84	..	5.4	18.9
281	243½	Renchaw	275	..	3.0	23.2
188	126	Renold†	185	..	2.0	25.6
73	51	Richard (Leics)	58	..	4.8	41.5
104½	76	Richardson West	77	..	5.3	16.9
204	161	Rolls-Royce†	174	+ 2	3.6	30.7
195	156	Rotork	157	..	3.3	17.0
130	134	Ruanco	143	..	4.0	16.1
150½	72	Senior Eng	82	..	5.2	13.4
270	245	Senomes	266	..	3.1	28.4
630	500	Siebe	542	+ 3	2.6	17.3
130½	75	Simon Eng	86	..	..	..
82	35	Sir Hundertt	81	+ 2	2.3	38.0
1459¾	1031½	SKF 'B'	1146½	+ 93¾	..	..
527½	411	Smiths Indt	433	..	3.8	16.7
495	337	Spirax-Sarco	454	..	2.7	19.3
267	197	Sterling Ind	228	..	3.9	14.6
455	343	TI	370	- 2	3.9	20.4
121	92	Tinsley (E)	102	..	7.0	16.3
105	45	Transfer Techt	60	..	6.9	8.6
163	125	Triplex Lloyd†	130	..	8.7	..
18½	12	Utd Inds▼	16½	..	0.8	..
1548	980	VSEL	1353	- 1	1.3	12.7
31½	12	Verson	15	..	..	..
304	163	Vickers	176	- 2½	2.5	18.6
327	230	Vosautt	236	+ 1	4.3	12.9
19	9½	Vibers Gp	9½	..	..	..
531	451	Vintent	530	..	1.8	13.9
805	661	Vosper Thornyt	722	..	3.3	15.6
527	451	Wagon Ind	453	..	5.1	22.7
354½	246½	Weir	273	..	3.0	18.3
46½	37½	Wellman†	40½	..	3.1	66.1
548	365	Whatman	380	+ 6	3.5	13.9
264	90	Whessoe	127	..	2.3	..

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
66	31	AAF Inds	34	..	..	..
160	108	Airflow Stream†	159	..	3.1	15.6
639	467	Avon Rubber†	469	..	4.4	..
236	173	BBA	204	- 2	2.8	..
86½	54	BSG†	56½	..	7.1	35.3
18½	8½	Benson Group	9½	+ ¼	4.3	13.0
306	180	Boctom	300	..	2.5	17.1
28½	17	Boustead	23	..	1.5	..
22	11½	Caverdale	11½	+ ¼	1.6	11.9
332	275	ERF	325	+ 1	1.5	..
370	296	First Tech	369	..	1.8	21.1
660	510½	GKN	587	- 5	4.4	34.3
4387½	2337½	General Mtr	2437½	+ 12½	2.1	..
1239	918½	Honda Motor	1107½	+ 11½	0.4	..
432½	331	Laird	345	..	3.9	16.7
350	253	Leedes	345	..	..	..
239	158	Lucas†	199	- 1	4.4	..
64	50	Mayflower	53	..	3.3	21.6
124	61	Mrdstone	63	..	..	6.8
178	149	Syltone	161	..	3.9	17.6
261	157	T & N	159	- 1	8.5	13.9
333	263	Trinity Hldgs†	319	+ 3	2.5	23.1

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
607	499	AB Food	568	+ 4	3.6	11.6
368	248	Acatos & Hutch	265	..	4.3	..
74	40	Albert Fisher†	46	..	10.1	15.7
270	210	Banks (S C)	215	..	5.7	8.2
383	305	Barr (AG)	375	..	2.2	24.2
72	35	Bensons Crsp	37	- 1	7.3	..
491	378	Booker†	403	..	6.8	14.8
56¼	48	Borthwick†	49½	- ¼	3.4	23.0
212	156	CPL Aromast	201	..	1.9	19.2
546	392	Cadbury-Schw	420	+ 6	4.6	13.9
332	143	Carrs Milling†	229	+ 3	3.4	..
167	130	Cranswick†	142	..	7.3	11.8
154	90	Dalepak	136	..	1.7	..
543	389	Dalgety†	419	- 5	6.3	11.7
87	50	Daniels S	54	..	0.7	..
294	210	Devro	217	..	3.6	14.6
101	52	Everest	65	..	4.8	24.4
8½	4½	Fanningford	4½	..	..	..
85	61	Finlay (James)†	66	..	7.9	9.0
20½	13	Global	14	..	4.5	12.8
68	38	Grand Central	48	..	..	..
194	104	Hazlewood Fdst	115	+ 2	7.3	7.2
196½	151	Hillsdown†	176	+ 2	6.2	12.5
28	16	Hobson	22½	..	..	..
111	65	JLI Group	65	- 2	7.1	12.0
408	313	Linton Park	346	- 2	6.3	9.9
127	85	Matthews (B)	114	..	3.0	13.7
181	160	Man ED & F	177	..	6.2	9.6
246	205	Nichols (JN)	231	..	3.2	14.8
271½	193	Nthn Foods†	213	+ 3	5.2	10.9
14	9	Nefmon Fn	10½	..	..	..
46	33	Pascoes	33	- 1	..	..
81	62	Perkins Food	66	..	8.4	11.1
96	73	Sentry Farm	84	..	3.3	8.5
122	71	Sims Food†	78	..	12.0	..
467½	392	Tate & Lyle†	428	+ 5	4.2	9.8
238	145	Tesall	204	+ 1	3.5	16.6
434½	317	Unigate†	343	+ 3	6.4	9.4
1247	958	Unilever†	1147	+ 6	2.8	16.5
81184	6496½	Unilever (NV)	7337½	+ 62½	2.9	14.9
388	293½	Utd Biscuits†	327	+ 1	5.8	36.7
49	33	West Trust	36	..	8.8	24.9
133	99	Yorkshire Food	104	..	3.9	12.3

HEALTHCARE

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
544	325	AAH†	335	+ 1	6.7	11.8
1141	847	Amersham†	847	- 2	2.4	17.7
81	43	Anagen	51	..	..	..
297½	205	Assoc Nursg	208	..	1.4	12.1
393	343	Bespak	378	..	4.6	14.3
10	5	Care UK	6½	- ¼	..	..
115	68	Celsis	77	..	..	..
151	88	Chiroscience	97	..	..	..
47	38	Cortecs	38	..	..	..
297	232	Community H	240	..	4.1	13.9
44	29	CrestaCare	30	+ ½	3.2	..
146	96	Enviromed†	112	..	1.8	..
110	82	Ferraris Group†	86	..	3.3	..
171	134	Goldsborough	153	..	1.9	..
15½	9½	Greenacre	10	..	4.2	13.3
165	39	Intercare Gp	49	- 1	9.5	..
325	278	Isotron	279	..	2.1	..
171	107	Life Sciences	129	..	4.0	12.8
152¼	74	Lon Intl	85	..	..	..
80	42	Nestor-BNA	46	..	8.6	11.4
3	1¼	Premier Health	1½	..	..	..
330	227	Quality Care	253	..	2.2	14.7
210	123	Scholl	132½	- 1½	6.0	12.7
363	275½	Seton Health▼	318	..	2.7	16.2
83	44	Shield Diag	55	..	..	..
159½	136½	Smith & Neph	153½	..	4.1	17.0
21	6½	Specialeyes	6½	..	..	..
292	192	Takare	210	+ 4	1.3	18.3
313	235	UniChem▼	266	+ 5	3.2	14.3
400	294	West Hlthcare	340	..	1.7	..

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
312	201	[illegible]	202	..	3.0	12.6
193	115	[illegible]	151	..	0.8	41.4
39	25	[illegible]	35	..	..	..
167	31	[illegible]	101	- 1	7.1	22.6
286	170	[illegible]	170	- 2	5.7	12.0
165	132	Denby Group	149	..	2.6	..
158	115	Gaskell	125	..	2.9	..
14	4½	[illegible]	5½	..	5.3	..
231	166	Marbon	182	- 2	4.1	12.1
395	350	[illegible]	375	..	4.9	12.3
452	330	Osborne & Little	392	..	2.4	11.9
625	422	[illegible]	449	..	3.9	13.0
596	415	[illegible]	419	..	4.1	12.1
712¾	529	Reckitt Colm▼	590	- 5	3.8	14.9
391	211	[illegible]	248	..	2.7	45.3
379	152	[illegible]	156	..	5.1	12.2
46	27½	[illegible]	29½	..	6.9	11.1
350	255	[illegible]	288	..	6.9	..
162	125	Victoria Carpet	130	- 10	4.2	7.0
114	97	[illegible]	108	- 1½	3.9	19.5
63	44	[illegible]	57	..	..	44.4
155	155	[illegible]	155	..	2.4	31.2

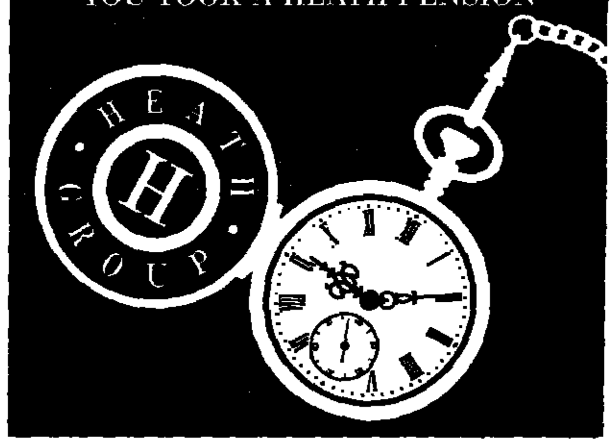
INSURANCE

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1459¾	527½	[illegible]	1250	- 6¾	5.3	..
2543½	1527	[illegible]	1312½	- 12½	4.1	..
112	59½	[illegible]	59	..	1.7	73.4
86	47	[illegible]	59	- 1	2.1	..
166	95	[illegible]	95	- ½	8.0	..
550	373	Britannic	389	- 2	4.1	..
117	92½	[illegible]	96	..	2.3	63.6
701½	491	Com Union	517	- 7	4.8	19.5
103	35	[illegible]	37	..	0.6	..
1962	1550	[illegible]	1555	..	2.1	17.7
64	31	[illegible]	33	..	1.3	..
221½	145	FBD IE	162½	- ½	4.2	7.6
194	140	[illegible]	162	..	6.5	..
114	29	[illegible]	97	- ½	1.7	62.5
757	491	Gen Accident	519	- 11	6.7	8.4
247	161	GRE†	175	- 3	5.6	19.6
105	22	[illegible]	92	..	1.8	77.5
457	277	Heath C E	338	..	8.1	..
245½	177½	[illegible]	187½	- ½	5.2	7.0
114	98	[illegible]	132	..	1.1	..
322	235½	[illegible]	269	- 1	4.1	7.3
241	178	[illegible]	194	+ 4	6.4	17.2
203	119	[illegible]	136	..	7.4	11.6
547	437	Legal & Gen	441	- 2	5.8	17.5
1521½	965	[illegible]	1521¼	+ 15⅝	6.9	5.8
119	91	London Ins Mkt	99	..	2.5	34.5
310	157	Lloyd Thomp	161	..	6.1	10.6
471	315	Lloyds Abbey	358	- 9	6.8	10.2
195	159	Lombard Inc	176	..	5.5	16.6
443	283	[illegible]	307½	+ 3½	6.6	19.3
119	91	[illegible]	95	..	5.5	24.5
236	156	[illegible]	164	- 1	5.9	10.1
5693¾	4327½	[illegible]	5087½	+ 112½	3.7	..
110	54	[illegible]	95	- 1	..	..
182	147	Nelson Hurst	176	..	4.0	17.6
106	76	New London Cap	86	- 1	1.5	..
139¾	100	[illegible]	130	..	6.2	..
99	75	Premium Trust	75	..	3.3	..
124	101½	Premium Unit	110	..	..	..
385	271	Prudential	316½	- 1½	5.9	15.7
82	31	PWS	35	..	10.7	5.8
404	239	Refuge	249	- 3	5.8	18.3
350	232½	Royal	259	- 3	4.0	5.8
222	133	Sedgwick	155	- 2	4.2	17.5
155	164	[illegible]	121	..	9.3	..
87	54	[illegible]	71	..	5.4	..
418	295	Sun Alliance	306	- 15	6.2	8.3
107	81	Syndicate Cap	88	- 1	1.8	70.1
96	51	Trade Indemnity	60	..	1.9	13.4
464	331	Transatlantic	332	..	4.5	30.1
573	432	Utd Friendly	455	+ 10	4.7	23.4
245	120	Willis Corroon	137	- 3	6.0	16.2
35	20	[illegible]	23	..	2.8	..

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
338	290	3i	331	- 1	2.8	..
166½	79½	Abtrust Emerg	92½	..	0.3	..
102	81	Abtrust High Inc	91	- 1	9.8	..
296	205	Abtrust N Dawn	217	..	0.5	..
2058	1676	Alliance	1719	- 4	3.5	..
335	247	American Trust	253	- 2	..	..
479	401	Anglo & O'seas	414	+ 1	2.2	..
195	141	Baillie Gifford SN	147	- 1	..	..
213	173	Bankers	184½	..	2.7	..
75½	43½	Baring Em Ev	45½	- ¼	0.3	..
381	311	Baring Tribune	315½	+ ½	2.6	..
248	198	Berry Starq	222	...	1.2	..
120½	96½	Br Assets†	98	..	6.0	..
98	89	Br Empire Secs	90½	..	1.3	..
46	31	Br Empire Wts	33	..	..	..
234	188	Br Invt	202	..	3.1	..
105½	93½	Brazilian	105½	..	0.3	..
272	221	Brunner	235	..	3.0	..
161	117	BZW Conv†	130	...	7.5	..
363	310	Candover	334	..	4.2	..
65	50	Central Euro Gwth	51½	..	..	..
271	163	China & Eastern	165	..	2.7	..
223	186	Contl Assets	186	..	2.0	..
95	80	Dartmr Inv Inc	89	..	12.4	..
338	268	Derby Cap	305	...	..	..
173	147	Derby Inc	160	..	12.3	..
100	82	Drayton Grwt	82	- 6	16.9	..
111	84	Drytn Eng Intl†	92	- 1	1.1	..
156	128	Drytn Far East	140	- ½	0.6	..
784	613	Dunedin Inc G	638	..	5.1	..
108	85	Dunedin Japan	88½	..	..	..
341	292	Dunedin Smlr†	302	..	3.7	..
80	35	Dunedin Wts	36½	..	..	..
837	725	Dunedin Wrldwt	737	..	1.6	..
122	92½	Edin Dragon	101	..	..	..
53½	42½	Edinburgh Incot	49½	- 1	0.1	..
360	281	Edinburgh	299	..	3.7	..
179	139	EFM Japan	159	..	..	..
354	286	Electra Inv	330	..	2.9	..
220	185	Electric Gen	190½	..	2.1	..
201	169	Eng & Caledon	182	..	2.7	..
137	108	English Scot	108	..	..	..
345	273	European Asset	278	- 1	2.1	..
174	145	Family Euro Val	153	..	0.2	..
103½	79	Fidelity Jap Val	82	..	..	..
172	146	Finsbury 'A'	155	..	2.4	..
86	69	First Spanish	70	..	0.4	..
343	274	Fleming Amer	283	..	0.5	..
145	68	Fleming Chinese†	75¼	..	0.8	..
92	36	Fleming Ch Wts	35½	+ ¼	..	..
267	196	Fleming Claver	200	..	1.4	..
385	300	Fleming Cont	301	..	0.9	..
210½	158	Fleming Em Mkt	162	..	..	..
364	190	Fleming Emg	304	..	2.9	..
459	327	Fleming F East	332	- 2	0.6	..
422	350	Fleming Fledg	365	+ 1	1.1	..
120	88	Fleming Hi Inct	96	..	5.8	..
109	88	Fleming Indiant	88	..	0.6	..
64	42	Fleming In Wts	45	..	..	..
52¼	34½	Fleming Intl	35	..	12.7	..
284	223	Fleming Japan	252	- 1	..	..
347	269½	Fleming Mercr	274	- 1	3.1	..
347¼	280½	Fleming Overs	291	..	1.8	..
155½	126½	Foreign & Col	133	- ½	1.7	..
106	93	For & Col Inc Gwth	99	..	1.8	..
148	106½	Frgn Emg Mkts	126½	- 1½	..	..
77	64½	Frgn Enterprise	70¼	..	1.1	..
281	218	Frgn Eurost	218	..	0.7	..
145	114	Frgn German	130	..	0.5	..
374	295	Frgn Pacific	314	..	1.0	..
144	116	Frgn PEP	122	..	3.6	..
192	159½	Frgn Smaller	160	..	1.6	..
120	91	Frgn US Smlr	94	+ 1	..	..
28½	21½	Fulcrum Cap	24	..	..	..
54	46	Fulcrum Inct	46	..	21.5	..
142½	134½	Fulcrum Zero	139	..	..	..
213	190	Gartmore Brit	190	..	4.8	..
151	124	Gartmore Eurot	129	..	0.9	..
130	85	Gartmore Shrdt	86	..	14.4	..
247	201	G'more Smlr Cos	205	..	3.5	..
128	99	Geared Inc Inv	100	..	10.4	..
200	148	Genl Cons Cap	149	..	..	..
175½	104	Genl Inct	105	..	10.4	..
106	88	German Inv	90½	..	0.1	..
325	214	Gov Asian Sm Cos	234	- 1	0.1	..
151	101	Gov Emg Mkts	172	..	0.3	..
191	138	Govett Am Smlr	142	..	..	..
96½	80	Gov Glob Smlr	84	..	..	..
112	78	Govett High Inct	82	..	7.0	..
429	349	Govett Oriental	379	..	0.4	..
348	231	Govett Strategic	237	..	3.6	..
475	403	Greenfriar	403	..	2.1	..
19	19	Gresham House	19	..	..	..
303	227	GT Japan	240	..	0.7	..
155	119	H Govett Smlr Co	119½	..	1.1	..
138	113	Hend High	117	..	6.1	..
293	257	Hend Stratgt	277	..	0.2	..
105	86	Herald	91	+ 1	..	..
116	88½	HTR Jap Smaller	104	..	0.5	..
27	13	I&S Em	15	..	..	..
119	94	I&S UK Smlrt	99	..	3.5	..
158	117	Inv Cap	124	..	5.2	..
98	82	Inv Biotech	87	..	..	..
50	30	Inv Wts	32	..	..	..
177	126	INVESCO Korea	147	- 2	..	..
122	88½	J Fry 2nd Ut	95	..	8.4	..
100	94	J Fry Euro U	94	..	6.4	..
255	187	JF Fleng Jap	220	..	..	..
121	102	Jupiter Intl Grn	102	..	4.2	..
243	195	Klnwt Chl	201	..	3.2	..
149	115	Klnwt E Mkt	126	..	..	..
124	105	Klnwt End	116	..	..	..
88¾	73½	Klnwt Euro Prvt	74½	- ½	1.3	..
49	23½	Klnwt Euro Wts	24	..	..	..
116	79	Klnwt H Inct	81	..	11.8	..
272½	224	Klnwt O'seas	231½	+ ½	1.8	..
165	125	Klnwt Smlr	127	..	3.1	..
201	129½	Latin American	141	- 4½	..	..
826	672	Law Debenture	733	..	3.3	..
129	93	Lazard H Inct	94½	- ½	8.5	..
97	79	Lloyds Sm Cap	81	..	..	..
35	22	Lloyds Sm Ox	28½	..	..	..
129	107	Lloyds Sm Pig	109	..	15.6	..
174	141	Lon St Lawrence	152	..	4.1	..
108	81	Lon Smaller Cos	82	..	4.9	..
334	265	Lowland	294	..	4.8	..
1440½	887½	Lyceburg	1337½	..	4.1	..
620	495	M&G 2nd Dual Cap	540	- 5	1.7	..
151	127	M&G 2nd Dual Inc	135	..	22.2	..
2772	2443	M&G Dual Cap	2618	- 10	..	..
353	285	M&G Dual Inc	290	..	30.3	..
77	53	M&G Inc Growth	75½	..	9.4	..
34½	26½	M&G Inc Inv Tst Cap	29	- ½	..	..
45	36	M&G Inc Inv Tst Inc	36½	..	16.8	..
137	117	M&G Inc Package	121	..	5.1	..
59	50	M&G Inc Zero Div	54½	..	..	..
36½	27½	M&G Rec Cap	30½	..	..	..
52½	61	M&G Rec Geared	61½	..	7.9	..
37½	30	M&G Rec Inc	30½	..	15.9	..
151	128	M&G Rec Pkge	131	..	3.7	..
87½	68	M&G Rec Zero Div	72½	..	..	..
128	99	M Conv Euro	105	..	0.3	..
180	133	M Conv Pac	137	..	0.3	..
237	190	Marden	193	+ 1	3.4	..
57	44	Marsden	55	..	..	..
125	97½	Merc Wld Mg	95	+ 1	..	..
324	237	Mercanns	263	+ 2	5.3	..
99	79½	Mercury Euro Pvt	83½	..	0.9	..
45	27	Mercury Wts	37½	..	..	..
52½	29	Mercury Wld Wts	30	+ 1	..	..
595	491	Monks Inv Tst	515	+ 1	1.7	..
158	126	Morg Gren Inct	132	+ 1	4.5	..
64	33	Morg Wts	45	..	..	..
111	97	Morg Latin Amer	95	- 3	..	..
65	29	Morg Wts	35	- 2	..	..
148	109	Murray Ent▼	116	..	2.3	..
68	54	Murray Euro	67½	..	0.6	..
393	317	Murray Income†	322	+ 2½	4.6	..
395	319	Murray Intl	333	...	4.7	..
164	153	Murray S/C DP	164	...	..	..
174	128	Murray S/C Cap	129	..	..	..
97	78	Murray S/C Inc	78	..	17.0	..
3400	2850	Murray S/C Uts	3050	..	4.3	..
548	424	Murray Smaller†	462	+ 1	1.2	..
363	302½	Murray Vent	308	+ 2	4.7	..
58	31	Murray Ent Wts	32	..	..	..
23½	16	Murray Ex Wts	16½	..	..	..
58	15	Newmarket	16	..	..	..
95	56	Nthrn Inc	57½	+ ½	9.4	..
104	65	Nthrn Cap	68	- 1	..	..
404	333	O'seas Inv Tst	347	+ 1	1.2	..
241	179	O'seas Wts	199	..	..	..
640½	433	Pacific Assets	478	..	0.3	..
542	335	Pacific Wts	380	+ 1	..	..
120	89	Perpetual Jap	93	..	..	..
9400	7900	Personal Assets	8700	..	2.8	..
153	124	Pilot Inv	125	..	1.6	..
96	87	Pipar Euro Sm	87	- 1	..	..
92½	88	Prolific Inc	90	..	..	..
189	164½	RIT Cap Ptnr	173	..	1.1	..
38	27	River Merc Am Cap	27	..	..	..
121	101	River Merc Am Inct	101	..	9.7	..
17	11	River Merc Am Wts	11	..	..	..
150	114	River Merc Cap	119	..	..	..
147	85	River Merc Ex Inc	86	..	11.3	..
49	14	River Merc Ex IncWt	15	..	..	..
116	82	River Merc Grd Inct	83	..	11.3	..
36	23	River Merc Gm Pf	26	..	..	..
127	110	River Merc Inl Inct	110	..	10.5	..
40	22	River Merc Wt	23	..	..	..
170	118	River Merc Sm Co	128	..	4.1	..
77	31	River Merc Sm Wt	32	..	..	..
449	405	Robeco	409	..	3.1	..
463	415	Rolinco	417	..	1.9	..
99	82	Schrod Jap Gwth	86	+ ½	..	..
52	36½	Schrod Jap Gwth Wt	38	..	..	..
1112¾	787½	Schrod Korea Fd	881½	+ ¾	0.1	..
650½	411	Sch Korea Fd Wt	464½	+ ¾	..	..
113½	103	Sch Spl Zero Div	108½	- ½	..	..
37	27½	Sch Split Fd Cap	29½	..	..	..
129	108	Sch Split Fd Inct	111	..	8.4	..
98	86	Schrod UK Gwth	91	..	2.1	..
42	30	Schrod UK Gwth Wt	32	..	..	..
282½	207	Scott	209½	+ ½	3.1	..
183	148	Scot Amerincant	154½	..	3.9	..
368	238	Scot Asian	258	..	..	..
1070	863	Scot Wts	885	..	..	..
87½	77	Scot Eastern	82½	+ ½	2.4	..
264½	205	Scot Mtge	218	- 1	2.4	..
106½	90	Scot Natl Tst	91	..	10.3	..
133½	104	Scot Valuet	106	..	2.4	..
1795	1475	Second Allnce	1505	..	3.5	..
106	77½	Secs Tst of Scot	80	+ ½	5.0	..
179	143	Selective Asset	143	..	1.3	..
161	126	SHIRESCOT†	131	..	5.2	..
51½	33½	Sphere Inv	34½	..	14.0	..
343	290	St Andrew Inv	303	..	3.3	..
412	310	Temple Bar	342	..	5.0	..
135	98	Thrtn Asian E	105½	+ ½	0.6	..
568	468	Throg Dual Cp	483	..	..	..
101	70½	Throgmorton	73	..	3.9	..
164½	118	Trptn Emg Mkt	122	..	0.7	..
177½	133½	TR City Of Lon	149½	+ 1	4.5	..
205	141	TR Far East	144	..	5.0	..
124½	86	TR Pacific	110	..	0.2	..
43½	31½	TR Property▼	31½	..	3.6	..
228	179	TR Smlr Cos	183	+ ½	2.6	..
152	102	TR Tech Inv	103	..	2.1	..
405	190	Turkey Trust	211	- 1	1.2	..
269	232	USDC Invest	232	..	2.4	..
129	108½	Value Inc Tst	114½	..	4.6	..
109	62	Wigmore†	63	..	1.0	..
257½	205	Witan	229	- 1	3.2	..
113	99	Yeoman Intl	99	..	17.3	..

WHEN THE TIME COMES YOU WILL BE GLAD YOU TOOK A HEATH PENSION



YOUR INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE BROKING PARTNER **C E HEATH**

133 HOUNDSDITCH LONDON EC3A 7AH TELEPHONE: 071 234 4000
MEMBER OF IMRO

LEISURE & HOTELS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
131	81	1st Choice	113	..	3.9	..
40	35	Abrdn Sth H	30	..	..	..
578½	416	Airtours	429	- 6	3.6	10.4
49½	18	Alld Leis	18	..	..	..
177	135	Alpha Airpts	142	..	3.5	..
48	36	Arcadian	40	..	..	..
131	85	Baldwin	115	- 1	2.2	19.8
333	224	Barr & W 'A'	225	- 2	5.6	9.4
250	135½	Bluebird Toys	233	+ 16	3.2	6.9
365	231	Boosey Hwks	332	..	1.9	19.6
7½	2¾	Brent Walker	3	..	..	..
200	100	Bristol Scout	183	..	2.0	..
7½	1½	Buckingham Inc	2	..	..	..
249	114	Chrysalis	249	- 1	1.6	36.8
94	74	City Centre Rest	79½	..	2.2	16.1
374	305	Compass Gp	330	- 3	2.6	..
293	232	Eurocamp	239	..	5.2	9.9
213	78	Euro Disney	120	- 1	..	..
4	2	Euro Leisure	2½	..	..	..
456	306	Fairline Boats	440	..	6.5	..
350	245	First Leisure	270	..	3.1	17.9
285	209½	Forte	240	- 1	3.5	12.6
207	169	Friendly Hotels†	174	..	4.1	23.1
79	49	GR Hldgst	55	..	2.5	..
598	475	Granada	496	+ 3	2.6	15.9
96	34	Hi-Tec Sports	37	..	9.4	5.4
216	125	Hornby	133	..	8.5	11.6
173¼	142½	Jurys Hotel	157½	..	4.4	14.1
18½	11½	Kunick	14½	+ ½	4.5	..
289	200	London Clubst	284	- 3	5.2	14.5
217½	145	Ladbroke	165	+ 2	2.6	29.1
104	64	Magnolia	65	..	0.3	..
140½	107½	Man Utd	129	..	4.1	..
109½	68	Mondann Oml	73	+ ½	4.3	19.0
15	11½	My Kinda Town	11½	..	..	..
67	34	Norwem	65	..	5.8	10.8
102	65½	Pelican Gp	81	..	1.9	16.9
141	109	PizzaExpress	132	+ 3	2.0	18.8
183	111	Prem Leisure	111	..	4.7	7.8
43	21	Quadrant Gp	25	+ 1	..	..
278	205	Ramsdens (H)	247	- 1	3.3	[illegible]
447½	355½	Rank Org	409½	- 2	3.9	26.3
31½	18½	Ryan Hotels	26	..	5.0	14.8
1135	790	Savoy Hotel 'A'	913	..	0.5	..
92	60½	Sohu	85	..	1.8	30.6
350	296½	Stanley Leisure	336	..	3.0	18.9
345½	280	Tanjong	280	..	0.7	15.7
1165	959	Thorn EMI†	1013	- 1	4.3	19.3
161	75	Tottenham Hot	153	+ 5	0.8	[illegible]
163	129	VCI	162	..	1.6	14.5
149	112	Vardon	136	..	1.1	24.1
18	5	Wembley	5	..	..	..
149	110	Zetters Gp	135	..	2.9	..

MEDIA

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
365	270	Abbott Mead	338	..	2.2	30.6
355	198	Addscene	299	..	2.7	21.4
33	17½	Aegis Gp	29½	+ 1½	..	..
11¼	5½	Allied Radio	5½	..	..	..
26	13	BBB Design	13	..	..	6.7
235	155	Barbour Index	158	- 2	6.7	13.6
13½	5½	Bidscale	6	+ ½	..	..
345	320	Burt (A&C)	320	..	5.3	11.6
402	213	Bemrose Gp	244	..	5.3	9.1
205	137	Border TV	198	- 1	2.7	16.4
413	365	Bradt	369	..	4.2	37.5
259	256	B Sky B	256½	- 1	..	48.3
168	117½	CIA Gp	131	..	1.7	21.2
439	325½	Capital Radio†	340	+ 8	2.7	..
1047	797	Carlton Comm	876	+ 4	3.0	16.7
99	78	City of Lonf	89	..	6.2	13.6
1650	1100	Daily Mail	1393½	+ 9½	1.5	35.9
1484¾	868½	Daily Mail 'A'	1003½	+ 25	2.1	34.2
314	268	Dorling Kind	313	..	1.3	33.6
469	355	EMAP†	386	- 3½	2.9	21.3
552½	538	Elsevier	648½	+ 6	3.0	21.0
1975	1450	Euromoney Pbl	1828	+ 3	3.3	..
17½	8	Flitch	11½	..	..	..
485	309	Flextech	414	+ 15	..	..
1033	675	GWR Gp	883	..	1.9	..
275	162	Gold Greenlees	162	..	3.1	19.3
34	22½	Goodhead	26	..	0.2	..
356	228	Grampian†	326	..	3.1	17.4
172	106	HTV Group	135½	- ½	1.6	30.3
104	32	Harrington K	35	+ 1	3.6	..
515	288	Haynes Pub	290	..	3.9	17.2
408	328	Hodder H'line	330	..	2.0	53.7
180	120	Home Counts	162	..	3.8	39.7
340	273	Independent	273	..	2.8	14.1
337	161	Intl Bus Comm	328	..	1.9	11.1
162	119	Interurope	133	+ 2	7.3	..
187½	137½	Johnstone Press	147	..	1.6	20.6
33½	20½	Lopex	21	..	1.5	23.7
110	43	MAID	69	..	..	..
525	338	Metal Bulletin	525	+ 15	2.6	27.3
177½	108	Midland Ind	112	..	3.1	15.3
203	123	Mirror Gp	131½	- ½	1.0	8.9
431	344	More O'Ferrall	383	..	4.5	21.0
343	242½	News Corp	249	- 5	0.8	15.2
314	205	News Intl	208	..	0.9	11.0
60	23½	Osprey Comms	29	..	0.4	..
735	551	Pearson	582	+ 4½	3.0	19.3
440	207	Phonolink	213	..	..	..
760	603	Portsmth Sundt	603	..	2.3	12.4
339	249	Quarto	250	..	6.9	18.3
964	702	Reed Intl	781	+ 3	3.1	23.9
539¾	424	Reuters	472	+ 3	1.8	23.6
178	127	Saatchi	148	..	..	28.8
628	395	Scott Radio	565	..	3.0	..
574	355	Scot TV	422	..	3.7	28.3
40½	20½	SelecTV	23	..	..	..
57	20½	Shandwick	41	- 2	1.3	6.2
252	187	Southnews†	237	..	1.8	23.8
200	96	Sterling Pub	98	..	4.7	8.2
153	117	Sunset & Vine	124	..	4.0	10.8
40½	25½	Taylor Nelson†	35½	+ ½	2.2	21.3
822	310	Telegraph	390	+ 33	4.2	13.8
885	685	Thomson Corp	735	..	5.1	36.7
472	367	Trinity Intl	372	..	3.4	17.1
760	518	Ulster TV	675	..	3.0	20.8
731	473	Utd Newspprs	474	- 8	6.0	11.5
161	106	VTR†	106	..	4.7	11.4
36½	17½	WMGO	17½	..	7.4	8.3
129	63½	WPP	107	- 2	1.2	15.3
400	150	Yorkshire TV	370	..	..	..

MINING

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
115	65	Alex Corp	95	..	3.6	8.5
3693½	1782½	Ang Am Coal†	3693½	..	2.6	19.3
3796½	2509½	Ang Am	3765½	+ 34½	2.0	34.0
7331¼	4593½	Ang Am Gold	6331¼	+ 3¼	4.3	16.4
36	25	Anglo Pac Res	27	..	..	..
1512½	1196½	Ashanti	1371½	+ 8¾	..	..
166	108	Ashton	108	..	5.1	..
938	773½	Broken Hill	969	+ 7	3.3	37.0
404	230	Bairynchuk	245	..	..	..
481	294½	Beatrix	388½	+ ½	4.6	21.6
39	34	Bisichi	34	..	2.5	29.4
184	90½	Blyvoors	111	..	..	..
64	30	Bougainville	40	- 1	..	..
37	12½	Bracken	18	..	5.0	..
898	513	Buffels	585	+ ½	9.4	..
6	2½	Burte	3	..	..	..
968	745½	CRA	887	+ 1	2.5	26.4
77	42	Central Pacific	45	..	..	..
55½	26	Cluff Res	41	..	..	..
143	38½	Coal Inv	41	..	3.2	..
300	65	Cons Murchison	193	..	3.5	..
1750	1318¾	De Beers	1500	..	3.6	15.6
148	93	Deelkraal	104½	..	3.5	9.1
101½	30½	Doornfontein	55½	..	..	..
1036½	665¾	Driefontein	913½	+ ½	5.1	12.2
941½	527½	Durban	609	+ ½	..	..
1139¾	107	E Rand Gold	146½	..	14.1	4.7
122½	59½	E Rand Prop	70	..	..	..
75	48	Eastern Trans	70	..	3.3	16.6
513	330½	Elandsrand	389½	+ ½	4.2	8.9
447½	320	Eng China Cl	352	+ 2	5.8	17.0
1038	741½	FS Cons	897½	+ ¼	6.5	10.8
82	37	FS Dev	60	..	2.1	..
2735	1153¼	GFSA	1862½	...	2.0	27.3
66½	45	G&I Kalgoorli	49	..	3.0	17.3
235½	103½	Gencor	227½	+ 3½	1.2	38.0
128	75	Gold Fields Prop▼	118	..	7.9	..
[illegible]	14	Greenmcs R 'A'	16½	..	..	..
[illegible]	135½	Grootvlei	158½	..	6.1	8.2
35½	27	[illegible]	88½	..	1.1	10.2
[illegible]	215½	Harmony	563	+ ½	..	..
430	[illegible]	Hartebeest	284	..	9.5	8.8
1552½	[illegible]	Impala Plat	1562½	+ 19½	1.6	47.6
[illegible]	[illegible]	Kinross	130	..	9.2	11.7
1315¾	897½	Kloof	1059½	..	4.6	14.5
1058½	587½	[illegible]	885½	+ ¼	4.2	8.0
137	69½	Leslie	109½	..	10.2	6.1
368½	178½	Libanon	279½	..	..	..
30	17	[illegible]	19	- 1	..	..
5	2½	[illegible]	3	..	..	..
155	103	MIM	111	+ 1	2.2	..
1752½	1395½	Malbak	1475	..	2.5	..
224	155	Messina	167	- 1	..	..
225½	39	[illegible]	92	..	..	8.6
207½	146½	Nth Broken Hill	169	- 1	3.2	23.8
54	45	Orym Gold	50	..	..	..
101	65	Pancontinental	80	+ 3	..	..
463	250	Petaling Tin	265	...	0.5	..
199	122½	Placer Pac	180	+ 8	..	..
425	317	RJB	#348	..	4.4	16.8
965	790	RTZ	827	- 5	3.1	23.6
49	31	Rackwood	31	..	..	..
656	1507½	Rand Mines	650	..	1.7	57.2
840¼	547½	Randfontein	649¼	+ ¼	7.6	8.2
295	227	Renison	230	..	..	..
1205¾	1079½	Rustenburg	1690¾	- 19¾	1.8	..
112	66	St Barbara	74	..	..	..
756	503¾	St Helena	577	+ ¼	7.7	..
285	195	Sons Gwalia	230	- 2	5.4	14.2
30	16	Sthern Pacific	21	+ 1	..	..
2887½	1484½	Southvaal	1756½	..	5.0	20.1
5	¼	Stafman	¾	..	..	..
143	75	Stilfontein	75	..	28.8	2.5
261½	90	Unisel	168½	..	3.6	12.8
7600	4943¼	Vaal Reefs	5450	+ 3¼	4.7	8.8
23	7½	Wankie Col Z	12	..	10.3	2.9
545	450	Watts Blake	533	..	2.9	20.1
1213¾	508¾	Western Areas	1033¾	+ ½	5.1	13.2
3575	2050	Western Deep	2596¼	..	4.0	8.9
398	300¼	Western Mng	369	+ 3	1.1	54.6
1225	603¼	Winkels	834½	..	5.8	11.6
66	47	Zambia Copper	53	..	..	..
68	46	Zandpan	48	..	9.4	10.7

OIL & GAS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
44	24½	Aran Energy	44	..	..	36.6
53	35	Arcoa Intl	40	..	..	..
74¼	51¼	Aus Oil & Gas	56¼	+ 1½	..	..
68	43	Anva Pet	52	..	..	..
249	197	Br Borneo	219	- 1	4.1	10.3
358	253	British Gas	307½	- ½	5.9	..
437½	340	Br Petroleum†	429½	+ 2½	2.8	23.5
4	1½	Bula Resources	2½	..	..	..
919	785	Burmah Castrol†	784	- 1	4.4	15.6
88	56	Cairn Energy	82	..	..	45.2
375	258	Calor Gp†	265	+ 1	5.9	12.8
51	33	Clyde Pet	39	- ½	1.1	..
30	9½	Copley Res	11½	- ½	..	..
2½	1½	Dragon Oil	2½	..	..	..
27	17	Edn Oil & Gs	21½	..	..	33.2
486	370	Enterprise	388	+ 1	5.2	..
37	21	Fairhaven Intl	27	..	3.5	11.0
303	263	Fogasi	280	..	5.8	11.6
8	4½	Fortune	5½	..	..	..
77	54	Goal Pet	63	..	2.9	20.9
47	31	Gt Western Res	41	..	..	..
177	136	Hardy O & G	138	..	0.9	17.7
55	40	Kelt Energy	52	+ 2½	3.2	30.9
169	110½	Lasmo	143	+ 1½	0.9	..
73	48	Lasmo Units	52	..	18.8	..
75	55	Mussfield	65	..	..	69.5
7¼	3¼	New London	7½	..	..	..
2540¾	1912½	Norsk Hydro	2440¾	+ 9¼	1.3	..
9½	3½	Oceonics	4¾	..	..	..
56	36	Oil Search	44	..	..	..
50¼	17½	Pelsoz	33½	..	..	..
168	140	Pict Pet	156	+ 2	..	..
32½	21	Premier	25¼	+ ¼	..	13.7
158	43	Presidio	43	..	..	15.5
111	83	Ptroheli Rs	85	..	..	..
285	129	Ramco Enr	210	..	0.3	..
463	125	Ranger	135	..	5.3	..
7700	6681¼	Royal Dtch Pl	6847½	..	4.7	17.9
4084½	3271½	Schlumberger	3309½	- 37½	2.3	..
69	43	Scott Pickford	48	..	2.3	9.2
90	50	Seafield	85	..	..	..
758	651	Shell	697	+ 1	4.5	21.1
187	116	Sunrise Eng Gs	#116	..	..	..
4237½	3481¼	Total	3900	+ 46¾	4.5	..
19	9½	Viking Grp	9½	..	..	..
238	178½	Woodside	238	+ 3	1.7	..
110	28	XCL	49	+ 1	..	..

OTHER FINANCIAL

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
165	75	BWD	76	+ 1	6.9	6.2
126	96	Baltic Plc	124	..	2.0	7.8
185	78	Berry Bch Ntl	[illegible]	- 1	8.2	11.8
215	152	Bates Ins	155	- 2	..	..
154	108	Brown Dolphin	114	..	6.4	8.4
757	620	Caledonia Invt	623	..	3.3	17.0
2850	1900	Camellia	2200	..	1.8	5.9
29½	19	Carlisle	20	+ ½	1.6	..
630½	447	Cater Allen†	454	+ 1	7.8	9.4
174¾	125	Cattles	149	..	4.4	16.7
85	35	Clmoke	35	..	..	77.3
80	60	Cozymort	71	- 1	4.7	..
16	12	EFG	14	..	0.9	9.1
71½	45½	EFT Group	61	+ 2	3.6	12.8
740	513	ERM	728	..	4.1	21.9
212	159	Exco	163	+ 1	6.6	4.4
229	157	Gartmore	176	..	2.8	20.3
515	395	Gerrard Nat	488	- 1	6.1	14.1
465	333	Govett	347	+ 2	5.4	5.7
1208	845	Henderson Admt	1038	..	5.4	14.4
251½	151	Ionesco	183	- 1	2.9	26.8
50	37	Investment Co†	43	..	5.1	13.7
250	185	Ivory Sime	223½	- 10½	4.2	17.2
317	193½	Jardine Strat	229½	- 2½	3.7	8.1
428	103	Johnson Fry	135	..	1.4	4.3
170	103	King Sturge	103	- 1	10.9	10.2
245	138	Lon Forfaiting	180	..	7.3	10.0
119	95	Lon Scot Bk	118	..	3.8	17.6
1243	794	M & G	985	+ 10	4.0	16.4
323	218	MAI	222	..	4.4	12.1
117½	85½	MAI 5.9% Cv Pf†	88½	..	..	..
770	538	MAM	712	- 2	4.0	16.5
25½	8½	Nat Home Loan	15½	..	..	..
1268	970	Perpetual†	1135	+ 11	3.8	12.3
573	415	Provident	538	+ 6	4.1	17.1
395	245	Rathbone Bros	245	..	4.3	12.1
39	21½	Rutland Tst	26½	..	4.2	13.4
369	281½	S & U	300	..	4.8	9.8
425	164	Sharelink	164	- 1	6.9	8.1
188	108	SJP Capital	111	..	3.4	7.9
496	324	Smith New Ct	437	- 7	2.9	3.7
604	353	Swire Pacific 'A'	399½	+ 4½	2.4	..
224	78	Towry Law	78	..	7.2	6.7
65	23	Trio Hldgs	24	..	10.9	10.8
169	87	Union	92	..	6.1	8.5
31	20	Western Selectn	25	..	1.2	..

PHARMACEUTICALS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
615	311½	Brit Biotech	540	..	..	..
488	343	Cantab Pharms	345	..	..	..
243	191	Celltech	236	..	..	..
151	88	Chiroscience	97	..	..	..
47	38	Cortecs	38	..	..	..
157	107	Fisons†	113	+ 2	3.0	..
775	520	Glaxo	685	+ 22½	4.8	16.5
185	95½	Grampian Hdg	99	..	6.9	18.3
187	130	Medeva	168½	- 3½	2.2	13.4
3	1½	Premier Health	1½	..	..	..
330	227	Quality Care	253	..	2.2	14.7
295	242	Scotia	273	- 1	..	..
83	44	Shield Diag	55	..	..	..
472½	357½	SmithKline†	472½	+ 8½	3.3	18.4
436	322	SmithKline Ut	436	+ 10	3.5	17.0
731	488	Wellcome	706	+ 10	3.1	16.0
899	672	Zeneca	899	+ 12	3.9	18.1

PRINTING & PAPER

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
184	122	AG Holdingst	126	..	5.5	11.9
444	335	API	381	+ 8	3.0	..
316	234½	Arjo Wiggins	239½	- 1	3.4	36.1
205	145	Aspen Comts	165	..	3.8	18.8
472	347	Bemrose	388	..	4.2	13.2
171	97	Blagden	103	..	1.8	48.2
524	409	Bowater	418	- 2½	3.9	15.7
1865¾	1378½	Bowater Inct	1706½	- 15¾	..	..
297	242	Bowmore Intl	243	..	2.1	14.8
515	435	Br Polythene	498	+ 1	3.1	17.5
176	31	Br Thornton	31	- 9	18.8	2.8
180¾	119	Britton Gp	119	..	2.6	17.5
186	139	Bunzl†	172	+ 1½	3.0	20.2
198	129	Capital Inds	144	..	3.9	11.3
2446½	1890¾	Carnaud MB	2126½	+ 12½	2.2	16.7
439	282	Cropper (James)†	282	..	1.6	14.8
1035	825	De La Rue†	923	+ 1	2.8	18.8
114	78	Delyn Group	80	..	2.6	14.5
137	103	Dolphin Pack	103	..	5.5	13.2
101	75	Fairway Group	93	..	4.6	17.4
430	322	Ferguson Intl	323	..	5.3	12.2
145	120	Ferry Pkg	121	..	5.9	..
3	1½	Headgrafics	2	..	..	..
230	150	Inveresk	157	..	4.0	9.4
366	248	Jarvis Porter▼	269	..	2.4	18.4
438	364	Low & Bonar	387	..	3.2	15.8
69	44½	MY Holdings▼	54	..	3.7	12.9
271	223	Macfarlane	257	..	2.0	20.7
260	148	Phyrol	163	..	5.4	23.0
1040	513	Portals†	1017	- 8	2.0	27.8
412	314	St Ives Gp	319	+ 2½	2.5	17.3
1153¾	464½	Sappi	1148	+ 8¾	0.5	..
30½	9½	Saril	9½	..	..	..
351½	185	Sidlaw†	203	+ 3	6.8	..
573	398	Smith David†	506	- 2	3.0	..
420¾	274½	Smurfit (Jeff)▼	369	+ 14	1.5	52.8
119	82	Sumlot	97	..	3.5	10.4
45	18½	Unit Group	34	..	..	..
270	182	Wace	225	..	2.2	14.4
291	209	Waddington (J)†	213	- 2	5.1	10.4
511	385	Watmough	413	..	2.1	26.1
149	98	Wyndeham	139	..	2.6	17.7

PROPERTY

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
130	91	Allied Lon†	92	..	5.3	11.8
276	253	Argent	257	+ 1	..	..
83	63	Artesian Ests	74	..	..	..
144	109	Asda	113	+ 2	2.5	29.1
382½	235	Billton	234	..	5.2	17.0
283	208	Brixton†	209	..	4.1	15.4
39½	14	Bolton Gp	15	..	..	45.8
108	70	Bourne End†	70½	..	1.3	..
276	170	Bradford†	183	+ 4	4.8	15.4
137	103	Brightstone	118	..	4.0	26.7
474	343	Br Land	376	+ 18	2.6	35.4
276	168	Buxton	174	+ 2	5.8	15.5
118	88½	Burford	88	+ 1	2.2	28.9
112	96	CLS Hldgs	99	..	6.2	..
207½	135½	Cap & Regnl	137	..	1.5	31.0
229	191	Cap Shop Ctrs	206	+ 1	3.9	49.6
325	209	Cardiff Prop	228	..	1.4	51.0
66	24½	Cathay Intl	24½	..	..	..
185	152	Chesterfield	157	+ 2	1.9	53.3
678	413	Chelsfield	425	..	3.6	19.1
112	86	Chesterton Int	88	..	4.7	12.4
84	36	City Site Ests	51	..	..	10.2
12½	5½	Clarke Nickolls	6	- 1	2.1	12.5
87½	71½	Compco†	77½	..	6.3	..
56	28	Conrad Ritbl GS	28	..	2.2	24.5
1755	1195	Daejan	1195	..	3.0	13.9
25½	5	Dares Estates	10	..	..	..
17	4	De Morgan	5½	..	..	..
158	96	Debenham Twsn	96	..	4.6	15.6
189	161	Dencora	163	..	2.5	45.8
347¾	240	Derwent Hldgs	240	..	2.4	21.4
41	17	Development Sec	19	..	0.7	..
51	45	Dwyer	46	..	2.1	..
53	35	Eleco	31	..	..	..
460	275	Estates Agency†	350	..	4.6	..
47	18	Estates Gen	23½	..	..	..
132	97	Evans Of Leedst	99	..	3.3	16.5
43½	23	Ex-Lands	23	..	2.3	..
80	64	Fiscal Prop	65	..	1.2	..
51	23½	Five Oaks	25	..	2.5	10.5
78	32	Fletcher King	32	- 1	6.0	15.6
51	38	Folkes Group	44	..	4.3	..
51	38	Folkes Group nv	42	..	4.6	23.3
536	407	Frogmore	421	..	3.0	15.2
325	228	Granger	237	..	2.2	..
260	167½	Gt Portlandt	177	+ 1	5.8	30.3
226½	118	Graycoat	124	..	0.6	..
94	38½	Hambro Cntye	38½	- ..	0.8	39.1
435	298	Hammerson	343	+ 16	3.6	34.4
390	298	Helical Bar	318	..	2.4	11.4
40½	28½	Hemingway	29	..	1.7	48.8
78	20	Herring Baker	20	..	6.2	..
75	45	High-Point†	45	..	1.4	..
269	123½	HK Land	124	- 3¼	5.2	..
311¾	136½	Jermyn	154	..	..	77.1
792	543	Land Secs†	588	+ 2	5.2	16.8
16	6	Lon & Metro	8	..	..	0.3
122	86	Lon Merch Sec	94	+ 2	3.6	11.7
562	353	MEPC†	380	+ 2	6.6	20.7
13½	6	McInerney A	6½	..	..	..
190	164	McKay Secs	187	..	3.9	16.5
85	56	Merivale Mre	65	- 2	3.8	10.4
55	27	Moorfield Est	30	..	4.2	..
1425	1125	Mountview	1125	..	2.5	8.7
196	144	Muckow (A&J)†	148	..	5.3	19.7
2½	¾	ORB	¾	..	..	1.0
64	29	Olives Prop	30	..	..	11.2
191	135½	PSIT	136	+ ½	4.3	19.2
399	218	Peel	235	+ 2	2.4	44.6
162	138	Pillar Prop	148	+ 6	3.1	..
12½	2¼	Power Corp	2¾	..	..	..
9½	4¼	Premier Land	5¾	..	..	..
77	56	RPS Group	70	..	4.6	12.6
53	31	Raglan	31	..	..	7.5
40	23½	Regalian	26½	..	..	6.5
180	140	Rowlinson Secs†	160	..	1.5	10.2
134	97	Rugby Est	98	..	2.9	..
64	45	St Modwen Prp	48	..	3.1	12.0
78	59	Saville Grdn (J)	60	..	5.6	17.5
100	53	Savills	55	+ 1	5.1	8.9
108	64	Scot Mett	68	+ 1	3.7	7.9
135	86	Shaftesbury†	86	- 1	1.5	..
307	207½	Slough Estates	226	+ 11	4.5	48.3
103	53	Southend Prop	55	..	5.6	..
133	100	Specty Shops	104	..	2.9	..
50	5	Stanhope Prps	7	+ 2	..	..
39	14	TBI	38½	+ ½	..	..
244	164	Tops Ests	164	..	1.7	41.6
130½	95½	Town Centre†	99	..	3.8	18.3
107	81	Trafford Park	83	..	4.7	..
29½	15	Trenterwood	22	+ 1	..	..
58	28	UK Land	38	- 1	..	..
317	212	Warner	214	..	6.5	20.6
260	218	Warnford	225	..	4.4	18.4
7½	1½	Waterglade	#2	..	..	..
103½	62	Wates	71	..	..	..
45	29	Whitney Mck	36	..	..	..
105	61	Wood John D	65	..	3.8	..
30	15	YRM	16	..	..	..

RETAILERS, FOOD

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
68	50¼	ASDA Group	65	+ ½	3.5	14.6
315	222½	Argyll†	256	+ 5	5.6	11.0
505	413	Brake Brost	456	..	2.0	16.4
43	24	Budgen	25	..	5.0	15.9
17	11½	Cullens	13½	..	..	..
137	66	Dairy Farm Intl	74½	+ 1½	5.0	10.1
394	344	Farepak	350	..	2.4	19.9
60	37	Fitzwilton	40	..	11.3	..
108	87	Fyffes	97	..	1.8	16.6
371	165	Geest	169	- 1	6.0	..
1078	653	Greggs	1063	..	2.2	20.0
470	325	Greencore	400	- 2	3.3	..
211	133	Iceland Group	147	..	3.3	9.1
656	523	Kwik Savet	547	- 5	4.4	9.9
18	9	Merchant Retail	11½	..	..	..
149	99	Morrison (W)	138	+ 1	0.9	16.1
232	161	Nurdin Peack	161	- 1	5.1	8.9
146	89½	Park Foods	123	..	3.4	24.9
5½	1½	Regina Hlth	1½	..	..	..
480	342	Sainsbury Jt	404	- 3	3.3	14.3
255	200½	Tesco	238	- 1	4.2	11.9
198	162	Thorntons	172	..	3.6	14.1
422	279	Watson & Philip	359	..	5.1	14.5

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
80	26	Alexon	31	- 1	..	..
248	199	Allders	209	..	4.1	..
410	307	Argos Plc	345	..	3.0	18.2
102	54½	Ashley (Laura)	77	..	0.2	..
357	129	Asprey†	137	..	5.5	11.3
246	178	Austin Reed	208	..	2.3	10.4
160	132	Beattie (J) 'A'	133	..	5.8	17.4
150	110	Benalls	119	..	2.1	41.2
165	36	Bellwether†	50	+ 3	7.0	5.4
48	29	Blacks Leis	35	..	8.0	..
264	189	Body Shop	189	- 1	1.1	16.6
601	458½	Boots†	490	- 1	3.9	15.6
12½	1½	Brown & Jackson	1½	-	..	..
263	206	Brown (N)†	209	..	2.5	18.6
74½	51	Burton	68½	+ ½	3.7	32.1
245	148	Cantors	149	..	[illegible]	..
304	220	Carpetright	235	+ 3	3.7	19.7
246	152	Church & Co	172	+ 2	1.5	30.4
520	398	Clarke	485	..	3.4	24.4
175	95	Clinton Cards	95	..	6.2	13.9
170	81	C'ty Casuals	[illegible]	..	6.2	[illegible]
905	120	Courts Furnsh	[illegible]	- 1	0.9	40.3
210	155	Crown Eyes	185	- 2	6.8	8.0
353	245	DFS Furniture	272	..	3.7	..
287	170	Dixons Grp	184	- 2½	4.5	19.5
580	530	Ely's (Wimbledon)	560	..	3.8	27.7
11½	7½	ERA Gp	9	..	..	..
284	152	Essex Furn	154	..	3.5	..
326	217	Etam†	234	..	4.1	13.9
558	359	Fine Art Devt	359	- 3	5.8	11.1
68	46	Find Earn	66	..	..	..
106	71	Flying Flowers	80	..	1.7	15.4
278	124	French Conn	256	..	..	10.8
264	206	Frost Group†	226	..	3.0	22.0
66	49	Gieves	56	..	3.3	20.6
130	85	Goldsmiths Gp	128	..	1.9	21.0
653	493	GUS†	531½	- 2½	3.2	15.3
196	164	Hamleys	182	..	3.2	17.5
31	11	Hampden Grp	23	..	5.4	66.2
227	176	Hse of Fraser	176	..	3.6	15.8
95	68½	Hughes (TJ)†	80	..	4.0	13.1
778	404	Kingfisher	432	- 7	4.3	17.4
276	100	Kleeneze	110	..	1.7	..
435	290	Liberty	303	..	2.8	..
380	277	Lloyds Chem	300	+ 1	4.0	9.8
184	117	MFI	125	+ ½	4.2	15.5
460½	368½	Marks Spencer†	392	+ 3	3.0	17.4
680	485	Menzies (John)	500	..	2.9	12.3
337	238	Moss Bros	339	..	3.1	13.4
275	214	Next†	251	- 1½	3.4	15.4
56	20	OEM	24	..	..	..
97	39	Oliver (G)	35	..	..	29.4
113	73	Partridge Fine	78	..	4.6	10.5
37	12	Pentos	18½	..	..	..
288	160	QS Hldgs	160	..	4.1	17.9
62	16	Rhino Grp	16	..	3.9	15.2
209	136	Rosebys	136	..	4.4	15.9
132	99½	Sears	109	+ 1½	4.3	18.5
46	18½	Signet Group	23	..	..	7.9
549	435	Smith WH	465	- 3	4.1	24.0
1280	888	Sotheby's	735	+ 10	3.8	31.3
252	189	Storehouse†	209	- 4½	3.4	17.1
191½	151½	Stylo	175	..	1.9	11.8
188	146	T & S Stores	163	..	4.8	11.6
173	114	Tie Rack	118	- 1	1.9	14.9
[illegible]	3½	Upton & South	4	..	..	..
539	384	Vendome†	501	+ 2	2.0	38.5
78	38	WEW Group	39	..	3.0	..
93½	52	Wld of Leather	67	- 1	1.1	..
195	138	Wyevale	159	..	3.6	16.8

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
683	528	Allied Domecq†	553½	- 10½	5.1	15.0
458	358	Bulmer (HP)	389	..	3.6	22.2
140	105	Burn Stewart	117	- 1	3.3	25.7
542	374	Grand Met	403	+ 2	4.4	18.5
457	421	Guinness	449½	+ 2½	3.6	14.8
457	353	Highland Distl	436	+ 2	2.1	19.9
322	127	Macallan-Glen	210	+ 1	0.7	55.0
710	365	Macdn Mrtn 'A'†	685	..	1.8	29.5
614	515	Matthew Clark	595	..	4.2	12.5
250	67	Merrydown Wt	68	..	4.5	..
190	142	Taunton Cider	148	..	5.8	11.3

SUPPORT SERVICES

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
187	94	ACT Groupt	99	+ 1	6.6	10.4
743	583	ADT	870	- 3	..	..
48	34	Alphameric	40	..	..	30.5
140	59	Auto Sec	65	..	..	8.4
162	99	BET Ord†	102½	- 1	4.2	14.6
195	115	BMB Res	178	..	3.6	20.8
255	175	BFP	232	+ 3	4.8	18.6
188	130	BSM	130	..	6.2	11.1
1½	½	Black & Edg	¾	..	..	..
1100	575	Borland	575	..	..	..
226	159	Brit Data Mgt	178	..	3.8	..
79	57	Brooks Service	63	..	3.5	..
117½	80	CRT Gp	80	- 1	5.3	19.4
238	156	Capita Group	164	- 1	2.1	20.9
433	278	Carbo Sec	280	- 3	3.6	17.7
235	195	Compr People	235	..	1.3	53.5
65	41	Corp Services	60	+ 1	0.5	22.6
97	48	Coutts Cnslg	54	+ 1	0.9	..
376	212	Davis Service	240	..	4.2	16.1
83	66	Dudley Jenks	75	..	5.4	16.6
154	92	EW Fact	93	..	8.6	7.0
199¾	135	El Data Prc	143	..	1.8	..
334	261	Hays	285	..	2.7	19.4
399	182½	Hogg Robinsont	184	..	5.0	18.1
39	18	Holmes Protectn	24	- 1	..	1.5
15	8	Inf Cm & Data	11	..	..	5.6
2898½	1556½	ISS B DK	1621½	+ 65½	6.4	1.8
185	126	JBA Hldgs	137	+ 5	2.2	13.9
414	231	Johnson Clean	234	..	5.8	8.5
145	89	Kalamazoo	110	..	3.8	12.4
298	221	Kewill Syst	239	..	3.9	8.3
35	17	Laser-Scan	17	..	..	..
143½	68	LBMS	84	- 1	..	..
8	4	Lep	4½	..	..	..
325	266	Logica	325	..	1.9	22.9
394	96	MDIS	97	..	8.1	6.8
198	143	MMT Compt	198	..	3.3	15.7
218	103	MR Data Mngt	106	..	6.5	..
723	423	Macro 4	438	..	5.7	12.3
1865¾	1156½	Manpower	1812½	..	0.2	..
1320	790	Micro Focus	803	..	..	10.1
178	101	Microgen	102	..	8.9	10.2
548½	408	Misys	408	..	2.5	..
197	141¼	MITIE Gp	197	..	1.4	23.1
35	22	Novo Groupt	27	..	0.9	10.4
82	32	OIS Intl	34	+ 2	9.9	4.5
84	50	P & P	74	+ 1	3.9	18.4
115	65	Michael Page	115	..	2.5	28.2
143	80	Parity	126	..	2.2	38.2
235	150	Pegasus	150	..	4.2	15.1
115	62	Pennat	107	..	4.7	..
88½	60½	Proudfoot	70	+ 1	6.2	12.0
415	290	RCO	305	..	6.2	10.6
48	27	Radius	36	..	1.2	..
179	73	Real Time	171	..	2.9	13.0
177	104	Reed Executive	143	..	0.9	..
163	105	Reliance Sec	148	..	4.2	..
279	199½	Rentokil	225	- ½	1.7	23.2
194	138	Ricardo Group	140	..	5.4	17.0
215	147½	Rolfe & Nolan†	177	..	2.8	27.5
688	507	Saga Gp	665	..	2.1	..
383	243	Salvesen (C)†	353	+ 2	3.9	13.6
94	76	Sanderson Elect	78	..	4.6	11.3
17½	9	Select App	13½	..	..	..
438	310	Serna Gp	408	..	1.1	24.7
367	243	Serco Gp	280	..	1.6	25.5
110	75	Shirtel Corp	80	- 1	..	..
130	92	Sketchley†	93	..	4.3	15.5
254	172	Spl-Plus	172	..	6.6	16.3
148	100	Unitairn	120	..	..	..
85	13½	Vistec†	13½	..	3.7	7.4
65	37	WSP Hldgs	43	- 1	5.5	25.2
336	297	Warner Howard†	299	- 1	3.3	13.8

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
486	353½	BT†	382	+ 3	5.6	13.6
543	352	Cable Wireless†	376	+ 3	2.8	15.4
176	108	Fibronic Com	168	..	0.6	56.5
1543	1146	Securicor	1535	- 3	0.2	38.0
1068	785	Securicor 'A'	1002	- 7	0.4	24.8
893	686	Security Serv	822	- 7	0.9	26.0
221	157½	Vodafone†	211	+ 4½	1.8	27.3

TEXTILES & APPAREL

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
138	78	Albion	80	..	5.1	..
230	133	Alenda W	133	..	3.5	14.2
617	488	Allied Text	520	..	3.1	18.0
189	84	Allinst	84	..	12.1	26.7
45	31	Automagic	34	..	..	8.6
270	200	Baird (Wm)†	200	- 2	5.6	17.1
71	35	Beckman (A)†	35	..	12.8	..
290	226	Black (Peter)	229	+ 1	2.4	16.4
119	74	Bridport-Gndry†	116	- 1½	3.2	9.8
228	171	Br Mohair	185	..	5.7	19.8
74	20	Campari	25	..	..	..
104	80	Cassidy Bros	84	..	4.1	10.8
193	163	Chemo Phipps	186	..	5.0	24.1
385	292	Claremont Gar	302	- 1	3.1	16.8
287	188½	Coats Viyella†	189	- 5	5.5	16.4
593	417	Courtauld Text	451	+ 7	4.0	20.3
159½	117	Dawsont	118	..	3.2	..
143	97½	Desmond (J)†	131	+ ½	1.8	18.5
52	32	Dickie Hsel	39½	..	4.4	11.8
42	25	Drummond	26	..	..	11.7
25	14	Ebwel	14	..	..	..
80	71	Faupelt	71	..	..	..
156	136	Fortnumster	148	..	8.6	12.0
29	14	Foster (John)	16	..	2.8	..
126	94	French (Thomas)	95	..	4.8	18.8
82	48	Gent SR	72	..	3.9	..
113	73	Haggas	86	..	4.4	..
70½	11	Hamstone	13½	..	..	..
33	25½	Helena Plct	26	..	2.9	..
283	222	Hicking Pntcstt	234	..	9.7	10.7
91	63	Honeysuckle	64	..	2.6	16.6
90	48	Horace Small	87	..	5.9	..
211	173	Jacques Vert	187	..	1.4	..
73	55	Jerome (S)	55	..	3.0	16.5
388	268	Jones Stroud	343	..	1.8	7.0
202½	125	Lambert	128	..	3.3	16.4
485	333	Lamont	341	..	6.7	12.1
340	265	Leedst	274	..	4.6	11.3
88	61	Leslie Wise Gp	63	..	1.9	..
101	68	Lyles (S)†	78	..	7.8	13.3
26½	18½	Mallng	26	..	5.6	8.1
17	10	PEX	10	..	3.2	..
286	158	Parkland†	158	..	4.0	9.4
125	84	Pentland	105	..	3.4	20.8
75	53	Pittards†	67	..	3.3	..
112	58	Readicut†	59½	..	7.2	10.0
90	66	Remport†	66	- 1	5.3	7.0
96	43	Richards	43	..	5.9	..
70	42	SEET	56	..	..	..
182	80	Sherwood Gp	83	..	4.6	9.8
180	137½	Shiloh	140	..	3.1	8.5
146	98	Sirdar	102	+ 2	6.6	14.8
64	50	Stirling Gp	54	..	4.6	14.8
26	19	Strong & Fisher	20	..	5.2	13.7
69	40	UK Safety	40	..	8.1	9.8
132	105	Usher (Frank)	113	..	7.7	8.6
65	34	Viyal	65	..	2.4	16.9
110	42	Waltcum	110	..	3.3	16.0
289	239	Yorklyde	250	..	3.1	11.5

TRANSPORT

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
83	58	Air London	63	..	6.9	12.0
777½	619½	All Nippon Air	705½	+ 4½	0.3	..
313½	228	Assoc Br Ports	277	- 1	2.2	22.1
541¾	440	BAA†	471	- 1	2.5	18.4
130	103½	Badgerline	128	..	4.0	..
496½	344	Br Airways†	358	+ 1	4.0	9.7
79	27	Central Tran R	32	- 3	..	..
108	75	Clarkson (H)	94	..	..	..
179	140	Dart†	151	- 1	2.3	23.6
592½	195	Eurotunnel Uts	276	+ 8	3.2	14.6
87	50	Fisher (James)	50	..	..	..
508	405	Forth Ports	488	+ 3	2.1	21.9
236	156	GRT Bus†	229	+ 1	2.1	17.7
164	113	Go-Ahead	164	..	3.0	20.4
209	135	Gondl Durant	139	..	3.8	15.8
155	128½	[illegible]	137	- 2	4.0	10.4
71	39	Jacobs (J)	66	..	3.1	..
111	77	Lon O'Seas Frnt	79	..	6.2	19.8
534	368	Mersey Docks	400	+ 7	3.0	19.4
231	145	NFC†	164	- 2	5.5	40.5
347	245	Natl Express	286	..	3.4	16.5
325	244	Ocean Group	278	- 1	6.4	14.0
91	58	Ocean Wilson	68	..	5.9	9.8
743	587	P & O Dfd	607	- 4	6.3	18.8
225	153	P & O 5.5%	189	- 2	3.8	..
133	84	Seacon	92	..	3.2	20.9
232	158	Stagecoach	224	- 1	2.4	22.1
132	85½	TNT	109	- 1	..	..
915	703	Tibbet & Britn	713	..	2.6	18.3
327	197	TDG	210	..	5.7	14.1
136	98	Uglandt	127	..	2.4	..
160	75	Utd Carriers	94	- 1	2.1	..

WATER

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
607	442	Anglian†	507	+ 12	5.8	11.5
366	293	Mid Kent Hdgs†	298	..	4.8	19.1
811	454	North West†	521	..	5.8	7.8
551	508	Northumbrian	707	- 8	4.5	7.8
645	457	Severn Trent†	523	+ 6	5.6	7.5
1855	1525	South Staffs†	1845	..	3.7	11.1
675	459	South West†	623	+ 4	6.3	7.7
682	466	Southern	568	+ 2	5.3	8.1
611	434½	Thames†	477	+ 1	6.5	7.2
744	546	Welsh†	638	+ 15	5.1	7.0
379½	261	Wessex	288	+ 6	5.4	7.5
630	458	Yorkshire†	496	+ 1	5.9	7.3

Source: Finsat

= USM. # Price at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex scrip. ▲ Ex rights issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution. * Figures or report awaited. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 index.

BRITISH FUNDS

1994 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
107⅞	100¾	Treas 12% 1995	100⅝	..	11.93	5.99
103⅛	97⅛	Gas 3% 1990-95	98⅝	..	3.04	6.06
107⅞	102	Exch 10¼% 1995	102⅜	..	10.04	6.67
112½	105½	Treas 12¾% 1995	105½	..	12.13	6.83
117	107⅜	Treas 14% 1996	107⅜	..	13.05	6.94
121⅝	110	Treas 15¼% 1996	110½	-	13.85	7.51
117	107⅝	Exch 13¼% 1996	107	-	12.31	7.96
117	103	Conv 10% 1996	103	..	9.64	7.83
121	109	Treas 13¼% 1997	110	..	12.05	7.94
114½	104⅛	Exch 10½% 1997	104¾	-	10.02	7.99
110	100	Treas 8¾% 1997	101	-	8.63	8.13
121⅛	115	Exch 15% 1997	116	-	12.87	8.29
114¾	103	Exch 9¾% 1998	103	-	9.41	8.35
106⅞	95	Treas 7¼% 1998	96	..	7.48	8.33
102	93	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	95	-	7.08	8.32
130	115	Treas 14% 1998-01	115	-	12.08	8.53
140	122	Treas 15½% 1998	122	-	12.67	8.41
125	110	Exch 12% 1998	111	-	10.78	8.51
116	101	Treas 9½% 1999	103	-	9.18	8.43
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
128	111	Exch 12¼% 1999	112	+	10.85	8.53
121	105	Treas 10½% 1999	107	+	9.79	8.46
101	89	Treas 6% 1999	90	+	6.61	8.43
121	104	Conv 10¼% 1999	106	+	9.60	8.51
116	99	Conv 9% 2000	102	+	8.82	8.46
136	116	Treas 13% 2000	118	+	10.93	8.61
127	103	Treas 10% 2001	106	+	9.40	8.61
106	89	Treas 7% 2001	92	+	7.60	8.52
127	102	Treas 9¾% 2002	106	-	9.20	8.63
113	97	Treas 8% 2003	99	+	8.20	8.57
127	104	Treas 10% 2003	108	..	9.25	8.63
129	109	Treas 11½% 2001-04	112	+	10.19	8.75
86	69	Fund 3½% 1999-04	74	+	4.69	7.33
125	101	Conv 9½% 2004	106	+	8.96	8.56
105	88	Treas 6¾% 2004	88	+	7.62	8.46
129½	107	Conv 9½% 2005	106	+	8.92	8.52
143	118	Treas 12½% 2003-05	122	+	10.22	8.83
112	90	Treas 7½% 2006	91	+	8.18	8.45
111	91	Treas 8% 2002-06	96	+	8.33	8.51
136	112	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	116	+	10.09	8.84
117	95	Treas 8½% 2007	100	+	8.48	8.47
151	124	Treas 13½% 2004-08	128	+	10.47	8.84
124	99	Treas 9% 2008	104	+	8.63	8.45
LONGS (over 15 years)						
115	91	Treas 8% 2009	96	+	8.32	8.45
126	100	Conv 9% 2011	105	+	8.56	8.41
127	100	Treas 9% 2012	105	+	8.55	8.40
93	71	Treas 5½% 2008-12	75	+	7.31	8.16
117	92	Treas 8% 2013	96	+	8.28	8.35
114	89	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	94	+	8.22	8.35
129	99	Treas 8¾% 2017	104	+	8.41	8.37
159	126	Exch 12% 2013-17	131	+	9.10	8.56
UNDATED						
54	39	War Ln 3½%	42	+	8.33	..
37	27	Treas 2½%	29	+	8.58	..
INDEX-LINKED						
207	197	Treas IL 2% 1996	201	-	2.45	4.02
183	169	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	166	..	2.90	3.80
176	163	Treas IL 2½% 2001	166	+	3.34	3.79
173	159	Treas IL 2½% 2003	162	+	3.45	3.80
118	107	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	109	-	3.40	3.80
184	165	Treas IL 2% 2006	169	+	3.52	3.83
169	149	Treas IL 2½% 2009	152	+	3.58	3.81
175	154	Treas IL 2½% 2011	158	+	3.62	3.82
146	130	Treas IL 2½% 2013	130	+	3.61	3.82
157	134	Treas IL 2½% 2016	137	+	3.67	3.84
152	128	Treas IL 2½% 2020	133	+	3.68	3.85
139	116	Treas IL 2½% 2024	116	+	3.69	3.82
128	105	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	109	+	3.71	3.86

هكذا من الأصل



BUILDINGS page 32
They asked for a theatre; he gave them a giant temple: Bofill's Barcelona masterpiece

ARTS

THEATRE page 33
Not even loud blasts of rock music can lift a lacklustre new staging of Peter Pan



Sly and the familiar Stone

CINEMA: Even the bangs are more like whimpers as two supposedly explosive stars meet in *The Specialist*, says **Geoff Brown**

The Specialist
Warner West End
15. 110 mins
Sylvester Stallone meets Sharon Stone, but sparks fail to fly

D2: The Mighty Ducks
Warner West End
U. 107 mins
Stale adventures of a junior ice hockey team

Hollywood is playing Scrooge again. Cross the Atlantic, and you can spend your Christmas watching Tom Cruise bare his fangs in *Interview with the Vampire*. Patrick Stewart and William Shatner are wrestling with destiny in *Star Trek: Generations*. Michael Douglas and Demi Moore experience sexual harassment in *Disclosure*. Stay in Britain, and what do you get? The leftovers.

Since **The Specialist**, opening on Boxing Day, features Sylvester Stallone sharing bed, shower and floor with another body beautiful, Sharon Stone, you might expect Class A movie fireworks. There are fireworks, all right. Semtex secreted in cigarette cases, lockets and the edges of hotel windows regularly reduces buildings and people to rubble and ash. But the film remains undistinguished, crassly conceived for the most undemanding muncher of popcorn.

"Just watching blood and bodies going through the air gets to you, doesn't it?" Stallone barks at James Woods, a fellow demolition expert in Miami, who treats the universe as something to slap, kick or explode for his delight. There is no cause for Stallone to feel morally superior. His character's own conscience is paper-thin, and if audiences take no pleasure watching blood and bodies fly, they will take pleasure watching little else.

Not even Stone and Stallone, the Ice Vamp and Rambo, locked in ardour? To be sure, this coupling has curiosity value. But *The Specialist*, directed by Luis Llosa, proves oddly hesitant about capitalising on its assets. In the early stages, Stallone and Stone do not even brush against each other: they communicate by phone. Only once he accepts her offer of avenging her parents' murder do the two bodies become briefly entangled.

The sex scenes were shot, at Stallone's request, behind locked doors, with a skeleton crew who signed legal documents to ensure they never leaked trade secrets. The results on screen, though, never sent my temperature soaring. I noted dispassionately that Stallone's breasts were only slightly smaller than his partner's, and that veins stood out on his arms and neck like highways on a roadmap. And was that a nasty injection mark on Miss Stone's upper left arm? These are not scenes to inspire erotic thoughts.

Thoughts of any kind are scarcely warranted by the script, derived from a series of novels by John Shirley. The plot is built on quicksand, and any inquiry into the characters' motives will prompt a collapse. Surface is everything, from Stallone's dull masculinity and Stone's computerised sex appeal to the supporting cast's line-up of goons, sharks and snakes.

Here, at least, some colour enters. As Stallone's rival explosives expert, Woods glares at the world through reptilian eyes and delights in spitting out venom. Eric Roberts slinks amusingly through scenes as the sleazy son of the Latin American crime boss who wiped out Stone's parents. The boss himself is Rod Steiger: it is good to see this under-used resource back in a major Hollywood film, although he gives the kind of mannered performance that can lead only to worse parts in even worse movies.

For there are worse movies. The stunt and special effects teams do their work well, and cars, buildings and bodies burn prettily. But for a film that brings together two sacred monsters of the screen, *The Specialist* is lazy, cynical trash, and lets its potential go up in smoke.

Next in Hollywood's Christmas stocking is **D2: The Mighty Ducks**, a feeble sequel to the 1992 film about a junior ice-hockey team from Minnesota, starring Emilio Estevez. In central London alone *D2* is booked into seven unfortunate cinemas; its most suitable home is the video shop bargain bin.

For British consumption the first *Mighty Ducks* film had its title changed to *Champions*. But the franchise name does not matter. It could also be *Major League*, *The Bad News Bears*, or any of the other tags used for Hollywood series about a rag-tag sports team and their coach who succeed against the odds.

For the sequel, Steven Brill, the original scriptwriter, has left no cliché unturned. Honest amateur sport versus the lure of big bucks. How to live up to a father's dream. The importance of team spirit, self-respect and national pride.

On the latter point, *D2* proves as forthright as a wartime propaganda film. "America is a teenager; just like you," the team's woman tutor tells them as they prepare to participate as their country's national team in the Junior Goodwill Games in Los Angeles. "A bit awkward at times, but right there on the verge of greatness."

The film takes its metaphor embarrassingly seriously. Scan the faces of the Ducks and you find a rainbow coalition of Hispanics, Jews, Texas good ol' boys, nimble Koreans, and one plucky Wasp female goalie. The only major group omitted from the spectrum appears to be Native Americans.

As Estevez's coach loses his way among LA's bright lights, and the players lose games, you clutch at straws to keep awake. The bouncy young actors at least offset the perfunctory blank face which is all Estevez seems able to offer. Under director Sam Weisman, the ice-hockey footage sparks modest excitement. But the most interesting aspect of this ordinary film is probably the team cast as the villain, bruisers dressed in black who reduce the Ducks to abject squawks. They hail from Iceland.

Since Iceland's population is roughly the size of Southampton's, you have to question how they can field a champion team shaped like Greek gods while America can only muster a row of squirts, and a true ice-hockey giant such as Canada gets eliminated in the early rounds.

To make matters stranger, many of the Icelanders bear German names; while the frozen snarl on the face of their coach (played by Carsten Norgaard) would not disgrace an SS officer.

The plot's credibility is further weakened by its attitude to sports sponsorship. For a while, Estevez's eyes gleam at the money he can make endorsing sports goods and breakfast cereals. Then he sees the light, and burns his advertising cut-out in an oil drum.

But what does the film do? Plug away at assorted products; linger on the gleaming arena built in Anaheim for the real-life Ducks, a National Hockey League team created in honour of the original film.

Enough, enough. Neither of the week's new films warrants a Christmas trek to the cinema. Best catch up on past glories, wait for those of the future, or read a good book.



It takes a real man to get into a clinch with Sharon Stone and not check under the bed for ice-picks, but — hey! — Sylvester Stallone is up to the task in The Specialist

JAZZ

Humph the rebel rouser

WATCHING the jovial, avuncular figure of **Humphrey Lyttelton** putting his band gently through their paces at the Bull's Head in Barnes, west London, it is almost impossible to convince oneself that he was once a deeply controversial figure in the jazz world.

Even his current front line, which features two saxophonists alongside the leader's trumpet and Pete Strange's trombone, would once have raised the hackles of die-hard jazz traditionalists, who regarded the saxophone as the serpent in their particular Eden, and once famously raised a banner, saying: "Go home, dirty bopper!" to greet Lyttelton's first saxophonist, the late Bruce Turner, in 1953.

But it is now more than 40 years since Lyttelton wrote his celebrated apologia in *Jazz Journal* explaining his apparent desertion from the traditionalists' ranks and, in a jazz world where not only saxophones but all manner of so-called non-traditional instruments are commonplace, the bitter feuding of the early 1950s can seem bizarre in its passionate insularity.

Of course, as with many pioneers, Lyttelton's very success has appeared to mitigate his radicalism, so the fact that his Bull's Head audience enthusiastically applauded, say, "Stealin' The Bean", which involved a saxophone chase sequence between alto man Jimmy Hastings and tenor player Alan Barnes, passed unremarked.

Indeed, almost the entire repertoire played by the Lyttelton septet at this hugely enjoyable, relaxed gig would once have been regarded as dangerously heretical, consisting as it did of mainstream swingers providing platforms for strings of solos rather than New Orleans traditional fare, collectively improvised.

Bennie and Buster Moten's "Moten Swing", Johnny Green's "I Cover The Waterfront", Jimmy McHugh's "Porgy", and many more showcased the band's supremely easy-going but musically disciplined approach, and all the soloists were given ample space to shine.

Lyttelton himself, now 73, has lost little of his fire and grace as an improviser, Pete Strange's trombone contributions are as cultured as ever, and pianist Stan Greig is still featured in a rousing boogie-woogie interlude, backed just by bassist Paul Bridge and drummer Adrian Macintosh.

CHRIS PARKER

GALLERIES: The debt young talent owes to collectors Robert and Susan Kasen Summer; plus a Pre-Raphaelite centenary show

American boost for British art

When a wealthy American couple, Robert and Susan Kasen Summer, visited Glasgow ten years or so ago, a group of pictures by unknown painters caught their eye. Since then the Summers have quietly become the fairy godparents of Britain's best young artists. Now, for the first time, a major part of their collection of contemporary British art, recognised as the finest in America, has gone on show — appropriately, in Glasgow.

The exhibition at the McLellan Galleries is crucial, both for the collection's future and for that of many anxious new artists. "It is our chance to evaluate what we've done and make a determination as to whether we have reached an end or if we should continue more aggressively," says Robert Summer, president of Sony Entertainment Europe, who has kept an even lower profile as a collector than Charles Saatchi. His wife runs her own company, developing 3-D technology.

Among 100 or so paintings in the exhibition, "An American Passion", are works by Steven Campbell, Peter Howson and Ken Currie, whom Susan tracked down and befriended, becoming their first buyer before any gallery signed them up. "We sensed something special, a fundamental departure from the mainstream of contemporary painting," her husband says.

"We began to question where this art was coming from, and that led us to distinguish between the different roots in the north and south of Britain, finding links with the Scottish colourists and Sickert and then working back again through Bomberg and Matthew Smith and Kossoff and Auerbach and up to the present." The Summers bought as they looked.

But as their lakeside home in Connecticut began to overflow with dozens and soon hundreds of British artworks, some extremely large and extrovert, the couple decided they could do more. Young artists, however good they might be, needed help. It was a hard lesson that had been at the back of Susan's mind since her own student days, when she was offered a fashion job in Manhattan. "My parents had just divorced and I wanted to go to New York and live with my very dearest aunt and uncle," she says. "But instead they said, drop in when you're settled."

Help, in the Summers' terms, does not mean doing anything by halves. Three years ago the couple began providing studio space for artisss for six months at a time — with travelling, food and lodging expenses all paid — to give them a head start after leaving art school, usually the Royal College with which the Summers have established a foundation. No other private individuals offer British artists such an opportunity.

"It gives them time to rebuild their juices with no pressure," Robert says. "An artist has had his whole life to build up to his graduation show. Then he or she's expected to go and start banging out pictures and come up with a new body of work in months, without a gallery and with all sorts of financial demands."

The studios are in a converted old electrical factory close to the Summers' home, where artists in residence become part of the family. Friends and parents visit, it is an easy trip to see the New York museums and galleries and, as a bonus, the Summers' own acquaintances are ready-made buyers as well as themselves. The Summers ask nothing of the artists except perhaps a small work to give the local garageman in return for the loan of a vehicle.

"It's better than putting money in stocks and shares," Robert says. "We have the pleasure of seeing the art on the walls every day and, having it going on all around us, with the kids out there painting."

It is also a self-fulfilling investment. Being picked out by the Summers, just as by Saatchi, means being taken seriously.

So far the Summers have had 20 resident artists and the biggest problem, if any, has been their generosity. "It's quite hard to come to terms with when you're used to having to battle for everything. It seems too good to be true," says James Robinson, one of their most recent recruits, whose striking, minimally abstract work is in the current show.

Robinson's work, though, is uncharacteristic of the exhibition and the Summers collection as a whole. The majority of works are figurative and painterly, with a large number of pictures by John Bellany. "It is a great compliment that such top-tier American collectors find British painting to be the best in the world, and it is a huge boost to my morale that they have shown such faith in my talent," Bellany says. The Summers say that the only bad moment came when a Bellany work at their home proved to be too heavy for its mounting and eventually fell off the wall.

The exhibition (sponsored by British Airways, Henderson Boyd Jackson Solicitors and Unilever) has been chosen, catalogued and hung by senior curators of the Glasgow Museums and the Royal College of Art in London, where it will go on view next October.

The Summers agreed to the show after loaning several other paintings back to Glasgow. "But we've kept right out of organising it," Robert says. "We wanted a surprise."

ALISON BECKETT

● An American Passion: The Kasen Summer Collection of Contemporary British Painting *is at McLellan Galleries, 270 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow (041-331 1854), until March 5*



A Wing and a Prayer (1987), by Peter Howson, one of the growing band of artists found and fostered by the Summers

The passive Rossetti

The problem with poets as subjects for exhibitions is that there is not much to look at. Glass cases containing first editions and notebooks only mock the window-shopper's impotence to leaf through the concealed pages. There can be extracts from diaries, sketches of the author, letters; but whereas in visual art the primacy of the original is supreme, in the appreciation of literature originals are of only arcane, fetishistic interest. Readers are usually content with the glib reproductions of the printing press.

Christina Rossetti died 100 years ago on December 29. One of a handful of female poets to find a place in the Victorian canon, her proximity to the Pre-Raphaelite movement through her brother, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, ensured her peripheral importance to the art world as well as the literary, and this small but intelligently formed National Portrait Gallery exhibition is a fitting commemoration of her centenary.

Christina drew very little. In the exhibition there is an 1837 copy of Keble's *The Christian Year* with pencil drawings youthfully graffitoed on the pages, as well as her simple illustrations in a holograph manuscript of *Sing Song*. But it is the illustrations to her work by Laurence Housman, Arthur Rackham and Dante Gabriel that are worth lingering over.

Christina's lasting contribution to art was as a model, and the gems of the exhibition are the colourful oils of the Pre-Raphaelite movement's major figures. There are many of the sketches Dante Gabriel made of Christina throughout her life, as well as the first of his major oils, *The Girlhood of Mary Virgin* (1848-9), which he based on her likeness. He continued to paint her throughout their respective careers until the sickly spinster of his 1877 portrait, heavy-featured and bulging-eyed from the ravages of Grave's disease.

As a result of her posing role, and her frequenting of Dante Gabriel's Cheyne Walk home, she fell in with the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, and became a particular friend of Swinburne, as well as John Millais, Holman Hunt and Burne Jones, all of whom are well represented in the exhibition.



Christina Rossetti, the eternal sitter, depicted by her brother

There is a cartoon by Dante Gabriel of the poet "in a tantrum" — which offers a comical view of an otherwise miserable figure — and spookily serious photographs of the family by Lewis Carroll. There is Dante Gabriel's *Ecce Ancilla Domini!*, whose dazzling white colour scheme caused an outcry. In this, as in many of the pictures for which she sat, Christina's face is worked into perfect Pre-Raphaelite beauty as the Virgin, rather than the plain, homely look of the straight portraits.

The poetry is rather passed over, existing in extracts on side installations and in the spidery handwriting of some notebook pages. The full text of *Goblin Market*, her one real triumph, is nowhere to be seen (though Dante Gabriel's original engravings for it are here).

But this is an exhibition, not an anthology, and its success is that it acknowledges Christina's passive contributions to the culture as much as her active ones. Her own claims to be taken seriously always struggle in the background.

GILES COREN

● Christina Rossetti 1830-1894, *at the National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, WC2 (071-306 0055), until February 12*

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Paul Haynes

LONDON

DANISH NATIONAL RADIO CHOIR. This forms part of the nine-concert series, Great Choirs of Europe, which features three of Europe's foremost professional choirs giving performances in London, The Hague and Copenhagen. Tonight the Danish National Radio Choir perform works by Nørgård, Rautavaara, Sandström and Tormis with Gert Sørensen on the shaman drum. Stefan Parkman conducts.
Box Office, St John's Smith Square, SW1 (071-222 1061). Tonight, 7.30pm.

FESTIVE JAZZ: A gala of jazz performed by five leading instrumentalists, including accomplished pianist Jason Rebello, and top male vocalist Cleveland Watkiss. Together they form the Straight-Ahead Sextet. This Christmas concert promises to be a joyful and entertaining affair.
Purcell Room, South Bank Centre, SE1 (071-928 8800). Tonight, 7.30pm.

THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS: The world-famous Choir of New College, Oxford, join with the King's Consort to present seasonal baroque music including works by Handel and Corelli as well as carols from the Renaissance through to the 18th Century. Robert King conducts with treble David Nickless.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

LIVERPOOL: Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra carol concerts. Traditional favourites are on offer also featuring Richard Baker as narrator.
Philharmonic Hall, Hope Street (051-709 3789).

BIRMINGHAM. Tonight sees the first of 100 performances of *Jack and the Beanstalk* at the **Hippodrome**. Starring Su Pollard and a host of television stars including Zippy, George and Bungle from Rainbow. This production also claims "the largest beanstalk in pantoland."
Birmingham Hippodrome, Hurst St. Box Office (021-622 7486). Tonight, 7.15, mat, 2.30. Both in aid of Save The Children.

SHEFFIELD: Ever popular Marti Caine is back in town in her favourite panto persona, the most wicked Red Queen, in this version of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*.
Lyceum Theatre, Norfolk Street, Sheffield (0742 769922) ♿ admin. 0742 760621.

POOLE ARTS CENTRE: Richard Studt conducts the Bath Festival Chorus for Handel's Choral masterpiece the *Messiah*, featuring soprano Susan McCulloch, mezzo Frances McCafferty, tenor Jamie MacDougall and bass Ricardo Simonetti.
Wessex Hall, Kingland Road (0202-685 222). Tonight, 7.30pm.
Alternatively, you can see Matthew Kelly for his third year in Poole, this time as the outrageous Widow Twankey in *Aladdin, a Magical Ride*. This production proudly boasts "a carpet that really flies."
Towngate Theatre, Kingland Road (0202-685 222). Tonight, 7.15, mat, 2.30.

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum. Japanese Imperial Craftsmen; New European Applied Arts Galleries: (071-636 1555) . . **Hayward:** The Romantic Spirit in German Art 1790-1990 (071-928 3144) . . **National Portrait Gallery:** The Sitwells; Christina Rossetti (071-306 0055) . . **National Gallery:** The Young Michelangelo (071-839 3321) . . **Royal Academy:** The Painted Page (071-439 7438) . . **Serpentine:** Rebecca Horn (071-402 6075) . . . **Tate:** Whistler, Clore Gallery . . . **V & A:** Kalighat: Indian Popular Painting 1800-1930; the Ironwork and Glass Galleries (071-938 8500) . . . **Whitechapel:** Worlds in a Box (071-522 7888)
Tickets available at time of going to press; please check box office.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **BROKEN GLASS**. Strong performances from Margot Leicester and Henry Goodman in Arthur Miller's latest. An American Jewish couple in the 1930s, wanting to ignore the Nazi menace.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252) ♿

☐ **CALAMITY JANE**. The creative team behind last year's enjoyable *Sweet Charity* brings the Doris Day film musical to the stage. Phil Willmott directs for The Steam Industry.
BAC, Main Theatre, Lavender Hill, Battersea SW11 (071-223 2223). Tue-Sat, 8pm. Sun, 6pm. No perf Dec 24-27 or Jan 2. Until Jan 21 ♿

■ **A CHRISTMAS CAROL**. John Mortimer's adaptation, Ian Judge's direction and Clive Francis's Scrooge make this a cosy evening, well removed from the moral fervour of Dickens.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight-Dec 29, 7.15pm; mats Dec 22 and 27. Again from Jan 4 ♿

☐ **FASCINATING AIDA:** The girls are back with an evening of glamour, quick wits and sharp tongues.
Garrick, Charing Cross Rd, WC2 (071-494 5085). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 5pm and 8.15pm. No perf Dec 26, Jan 2. Until Jan 21.

☐ ***THE LITTLE MATCH GIRL***. Knockabout doesn't mix with unhappiness in this disappointing version of Hans Andersen.
Lyric, King St, Hammersmith, W6 (081-741 2311). Mon-Sat, 7pm, mats most days, 1.30pm and Jan 5 and 12, 10.15am. Until Jan 21. No perf Dec 23, 26, 31 ♿

◪ **MY NIGHT WITH REG.** John Sessions and David Bamber in Kevin Elyot's excellent, award-winning comedy with a dark edge. Six gay men caught up in a web of reticence and deception.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488). Mon-Tue, Thurs-Sat, 8pm, Wed, 6.30pm and 9.15pm; mat Sat, 4pm. No perf Dec 23-24, mat only Dec 30 ♿

☐ **THE RIVALS.** Richard Cottrell's likeable production from Chichester, with Patricia Routledge's splendidly wild Mrs Malaprop like a lace-encrusted windmill.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs and Sat 3pm. Until Jan 14.

☐ **SLAVS!** Tony Kushner's densely packed serious comedy about the collapse of Communism. A strong cast find some passion in it but the struggle is hard, comrades.
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. No perf Dec 24, 26 ♿

☐ **A TALE OF TWO CITIES**. Alexis Denisof plays Darnay and Timothy Walker is Sydney Carton in Matthew Francis's version of the Dickens epic.
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (081-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Dec 26, 27 and Jan 2, 3.30pm, and all Sats, 2.30pm. Until Feb 4. No perf Dec 24 ♿

■ **THE THREEPENNY OPERA**. Tom Hollander sings Macheath in Kurt Weill's opera. Words by the team of writers customarily known as "Bertolt Brecht". Phyllida Lloyd's splendidly inventive revival.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham St, WC2 (071-369 1732). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Dec 24, 3pm only ♿

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Arcadia:** Haymarket (071-930 8800) ☐ **Beautiful Thing:** Duke of York's (071-836 5122) . . ☐ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (071-867 1044) . . ☐ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . ◪ **Cats:** New London (071-405 0072) . ☐ **Copacabana:** Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) . . ☐ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (071-734 8951) ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (071-494 5070) ☐ **Five Guys Named Moe:** Lyric (071-494 5045) . . ◪ **Grease:** Dominion (071-416 6060) ◪ **An Inspector Calls:** Aldwych (071-836 6404) ◪ **Les Misérables:** Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ◪ **Miss Saigon:** Theatre Royal (071-494 5400) ☐ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (071-836 1443) . ☐ **Neville's Island:** Apollo (071-494 5070) . ☐ **On Approval:** Playhouse (071-839 4401) . ☐ **Once on This Island:** Island (Royalty), (071-494 5090) . . . ☐ **Only the Lonely:** Piccadilly (071-369 1734) . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ☐ **The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie:** Strand (071-930 8800) . ◪ **The Queen and I:** Vaudeville (071-836 9987) . . ☐ **She Loves Me:** Savoy (071-836 8888) . ☐ **The Sisters Rosensweig:** Old Vic (071-928 7616) . . ◪ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) ◪ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi (071-344 0055) . ☐ **Woman in Black:** Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre. **Correct at time of going to press; please check box office.**

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ♦) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

CHASING THE DEER (PG). Cardboard drama about the Jacobite rebellion. With Brian Blessed, Jake D'Arcy, Iain Cuthbertson, director, Graham Holloway.
MGM Panton Street (071-930 0631)

GEORGE BALANCHINE'S THE NUTCRACKER (U). The New York City Ballet's famous production, reverently transferred to film with Macaulay Culkin as the Nutcracker Prince. Director, Emile Ardolino.
MGMs: Fulham Rd ♿ (071-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Rd** (071-636 6148)

♦ **THE NEVERENDING STORY III** (U). Unappealing fantasy with Jason James Richter and a menagerie of dragons, gnomes and talking rocks from Jim Henson's Creature Shop. Director, Peter Macdonald.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** ♿ (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (071-437 4343)

ONLY THE STRONG (15). Soldier saves his old high school from drugs. Dull martial arts potboiler, with Mark Dacascos. Director, Sheldon Lettich.
MGM Trocadero ♿ (071-434 0031)

♦ **THE PAGEMASTER** (U). Macaulay Culkin, in cartoon form, enjoys bland adventures in the world of books. Directors, Joe Johnston and Maurice Hunt.
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3332)

♦ **PRINCESS CARABOO** (PG). Airy, amusing historical diversion, with Phoebe Cates as the mysterious girl believed to be a Far Eastern princess. With Jim Broadbent, John Lithgow, Stephen Rea, Wendy Hughes. Director, Michael Austin.
MGM Trocadero ♿ (071-434 0031) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **Warner** ♿ (071-437 4343)

CURRENT

♦ **JUNIOR** (PG). Juvenile jokes abound as Arnold Schwarzenegger gets pregnant. With Emma Thompson and Danny DeVito. Director, Ivan Reitman.
Empire ♿ (0800-888 911) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** ♿ (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3332)

THE MASK (PG). Strange mask turns mild bank employee into a wisecracking demon. Inventive vehicle for rubber-faced Jim Carrey, filled with the antic spirit of 1940s cartoons. Director, Charles Russell.
MGM Trocadero ♿ (071-434 0031) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **Screen/Hill** ♿ (071-435 3366) **Warner** ♿ (071-437 4343)

♦ **MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET** (U). John Hughes's gooey but just about digestible remake of the 1947 fantasy, with Richard Attenborough as a department store Santa.
Barbican ♿ (071-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (792 3332)

MY FAIR LADY (U). Resplendent restored print of the 1964 musical, with Rex Harrison, Audrey Hepburn, very familiar tunes and Edwardian finery galore. Directed by George Cukor.
MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 6279)

♦ **THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS** (PG). The King of Hallowe'en tries to take over Christmas. Technically brilliant puppet fantasy conceived by Tim Burton, directed by Henry Selick.
Barbican ♿ (071-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426-915 574) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3332)

THE SHADOW (12). Laboured adventures of the 1930s crimefighter, with Alec Baldwin, John Lone and Penelope Ann Miller. **Warner** ♿ (071-437 4343)

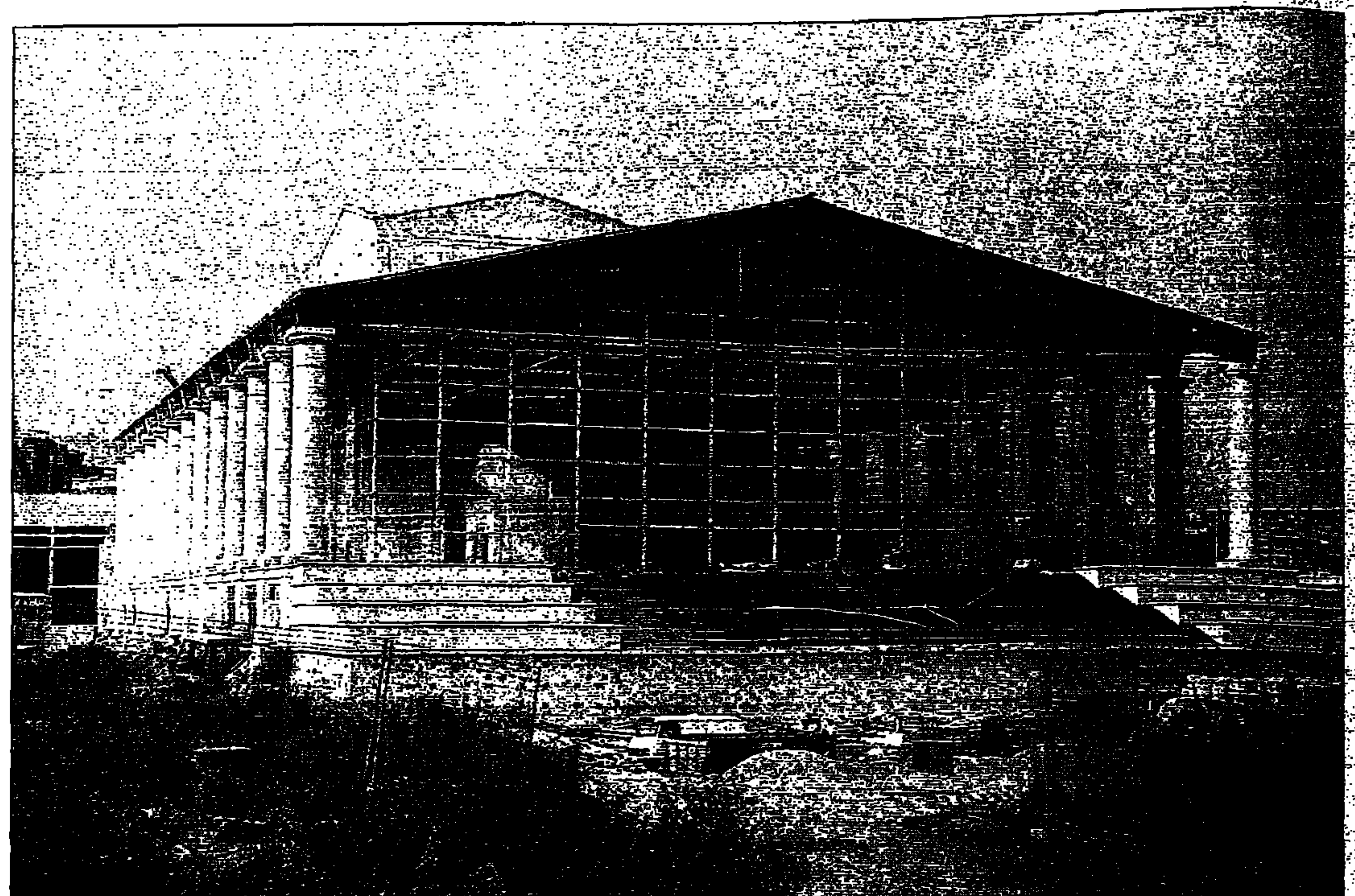
SLEEP WITH ME (18). LA friends party, play poker and suffer in love. Uneven first feature by Rory Kelly, featuring Eric Stoltz, Meg Tilly and Craig Sheffer.
MGM Panton Street (071-930 0631)

STRAWBERRY AND CHOCOLATE (18). Sharp and ebullient plea for tolerance, sexual and otherwise, from veteran Cuban director Tomás Gutiérrez Alea.
Metro (071-437 0757)

THREE COLOURS: RED (15). Kieslowski's compelling film about criss-crossing lives; a majestic climax to his trilogy. With Irene Jacob and Jean-Louis Trintignant.
Chelsea (071-351 3742) **Curzon Mayfair** (071-369 1720) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **Phoenix** (081-883 2233) **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

TO LIVE (12). Simple, enthralling family epic from leading Chinese director Zhang Yimou. With Ge You, Gong Li.
Curzon Phoenix (071-369 1721)

Bofill's temple of tempests



"On the entrance front, the theatre is like the mouth of a great train shed": Barcelona's neo-classical £16m National Theatre nears completion

ARCHITECTURE: Spain's avant-garde establishment is livid about Barcelona's new National Theatre. **Marcus Binney** reports

A building less politically correct than Barcelona's new National Theatre would be hard to imagine. In Spain, the new reigning ideology in architecture is modernism with a capital M. So who would dare build a major new theatre in the form of a classical temple? The answer is Ricardo Bofill, whose surreal designs have made him almost the Salvador Dali of Spanish architecture. To some, his buildings seem several decades past their sell-by date, but he retains his capacity to shock, even if those he shocks are the new avant-garde.

"What do Spanish architects think of this building? They think it is ludicrous," says Peter Buchanan, a leading British expert on Spain's new architecture. But whether you think it monster or marvel, this is a building with a commanding presence transforming an area blighted by demolition, dual carriageways and flyovers. It succeeds by the simple virtue of good proportions: the satisfyingly pure and simple shape of an ancient temple on a colossal scale. The dimensions alone, 96m by 56m, make it bigger than any surviving ancient temple, bigger also than the Madeleine in Paris or Birmingham's temple-form City Hall. The breadth of its front actually exceeds that of the famous Temple of Artemis at Ephesus, one of the wonders of the ancient world.

You could dismiss it as nothing more than a giant farmshed lined with a couple of dozen concrete drainpipe columns with the diameter of the new London ring main. But then remember the words of Inigo Jones when told by the Duke of Bedford that his new church in Covent Garden should be little more than a barn. "Very well, sir, I will build you the greatest barn in Christendom," Jones replied.

In terms of sheer space and facilities, Bofill has provided amazing value for money. The building contract for the new opera house at Glyndebourne, itself a bargain, ran to £23 million. The bill for Bofill's new National Theatre is 3.387 billion pesetas (including VAT) — £16.4 million.

For this, the Catalan government has itself an 850-seat repertory theatre, suitable also for opera, with vast side and back stages, a 40m fly tower, a 400-seat experimental theatre, a 400-seat open-air theatre, a theatre school, rehearsal rooms, a television studio and a large scenery workshop and store, the size of an aircraft hangar. At some £50 per square foot, it's the best bargain in theatre for many years.

> ❛ He has provided amazing value for money ❜

It may have the airs and trappings of a classical temple, but what the management has is a highly functional box. "It's a perfectly modular building, on an 8m x 8m grid. Every floor and wall measurement is a multiple or fraction of this," says Jean-Pierre Carniaux, the project architect.

The novelty of Bofill's temple is its transparency and stupendous spaciousness. "It's a Paxton space, a giant conservatory built for full-grown trees," Carniaux says. The walls inside the colonnade are clear glass from floor to roof on three sides, with the latest technology reducing supports and framing to the minimum.

On the entrance front, the architects dispense with the colonnade altogether, so the theatre is like the mouth of a great train shed, such as the Gare du Nord in Paris. But seen from an angle the robustness of the colonnade gives it an extraordinary monumentality.

Compositionally, Bofill's greatest success is in resolving felicitously the age-old problem of the fly tower, which renders so many national theatres and opera houses ungainly. He has placed his tower astride the crown of the roof towards one end, in exactly the position of the spire of St Martin in the Fields. But the shape and size of the tower come from French neo-classicism.

Bofill has rendered it harmonious by the simple device of crowning all four faces with a pediment, giving it a satisfying rhythm from any angle. The walls below the pediments have no more than a ghost of a colonnade etched into the surface, just sufficiently to create an imprint of shadows.

It is easy to dismiss this as pastiche, but Bofill and his colleagues give the building a simple honesty by placing the steel girders of the roof directly on the capitals of the Tuscan columns. They dispense with cornices and friezes and the roof is prevented from collapsing under its own weight by a simple web of internal tiebars.

Outside, the huge expanse of steps, to be flanked by full-grown palm trees, forms a spectacular ceremonial approach. The auditorium stands free in the huge foyer, its solid, curving walls resembling the half-moon of an ancient Roman theatre. "It's a bullring inside a temple," Carniaux says.

As you enter the auditorium, there is another surprise. In most theatres the foyer is level with the stalls or first balcony. Here it opens on to the very top of the arena, with the seats descending in crescent tiers, as in an open-air theatre cut into a hillside.

The back wall is a classical building in itself, with colonnades and pedimented windows, a distinct echo of Palladio's famous Olympic Theatre in Vicenza. After the colossal scale of the exterior, the theatre is surprisingly intimate. An orchestra pit is created when needed at the press of a button. Below the foyer is the experimental theatre, overlooked by galleries on all four sides. Ancillary spaces will be the envy of theatre directors everywhere, with capacious offices at the back of the theatre and an additional rehearsal hall under the apex of the roof.

The character of the new auditorium will not be exposed concrete or metal but wood. Walls and columns are all to be faced in handsome veneers, a blonde sycamore and a richer and darker walnut. The same treatment is given to the four pavilions in the foyer which house the ticket desk, cloakrooms and staircase. A further large exhibition and entertainment space has been created on the flat top of the auditorium under the temple roof, providing stunning views of the new landscaping outside.

Building works are due for completion next year. Interestingly, the engineer who worked on the theatre is the same John Thornton of Ove Arup who worked on the Glyndebourne opera house. He is more used to designing high-tech buildings like Richard Rogers' Lloyd's. "With high-tech buildings you are concerned with making superb engineering parts, the smaller and more compact the better," Thornton says. "With Bofill, it was all about proportion and hierarchy and things looking right."

Like Bofill's new international terminal at Barcelona airport, the National Theatre's greatest virtue is its astonishing sense of space.

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THEATRE: A noisy but unedifying production of J.M. Barrie's children's classic; plus other new shows

Lost boys still more confused

Peter Pan: The British Musical
Cambridge

The first intimation that something is amiss at the Cambridge comes as we settle, or rather cower, in our seats. Blinding red-and-white spotlights swoop across the auditorium to the sound of clangorous rock. Maybe we are in for an evening with Tinkerbell's tough-guy cousins: the Tankerbells of Dagenham, with their killer strobes, or the Tinkerbulls of Catford, who never go out without sunrays and flashguns in their weapon-belts.

As it turns out, no such luck. At least that would bring a bit of beef to what turns out to be a pretty bloodless event. The cast blasts out Piers Chater-Robinson's music. Heavy miking adds impact if not clarity. But there is a strange lack of energy in the production which is also by Chater-Robinson. J.M. Barrie, noting the musical's subtitle, might have felt that less Englishness and more doughty Scottishness would have made a better British balance.

The original text is only a little altered. There are no mermaids, which is understandable, for mermaids don't come cheap these days. Ron Moody's Hook goes to his watery grave, not with a caddish snort of "floreat Etona", but with an oddly inappropriate Dickensian mumble: "it is a far, far better thing I do". There is also a tired topical joke — "nobody loves me, I might as well be Prime Minister" — from the same source.

Perhaps Chater-Robinson should have taken more liberties with Barrie. As it is, his main contribution is to interpolate songs which, though always spirited and sometimes tuneful, do little for the show's momentum. The lyrics, also by him, fail greatly to impress even when they don't sound as if they are being muzzily delivered from inside a tin box. "Open your eyes, what do you see?" sings Nicola Stapleton's Peter to Debbie Wall's Wendy. "I can't be the person you want me to be." Myself, I prefer Barrie's discreet silence on the embarrassing subject of pubescent love.

Or perhaps we should be grateful that so much of Barrie survives, albeit in a lacklustre form. We can at least spend the duller songs reflecting on the oddities that insist on pouring out of his creative unconscious. So much of him is to be found in the tale of the eternal boy: the yearning for the maternal affection; the defensive idealisation of childhood; the fear of sex that was to make his own marriage a disaster; the mistrust of fathers.

Nobody should need reminding that the actor playing Hook normally plays Mr Darling too, and that Mr Darling, whose boorishness is largely responsible for the loss of his children, literally ends up in the doghouse. There is no change to tradition at the Cambridge. Moody is variously seen playing the paterfamilias, growling balefully from inside his black-spaniel wig, and sneaking apologetically into the kennel.

With his genial malice and ravaged face (at some stage a glacier must have passed over it, leaving it full of crevices and fossils) Moody's Hook is as near to a success as the evening offers. It is difficult to rouse comparable enthusiasm for Stapleton, though her Peter does have some brisk, downright moments, or for Wall, whose Wendy reacts to capture by pirates of herself and her brood rather the way a Jane Austen heroine might react to stepping into a puddle.



Lacklustre adaptation of Barrie: Ron Moody (Captain Hook), Harry Dickman (Smee), Nicola Stapleton (Peter Pan). Drawing by Bill Hewison

The evening's worst moment probably comes when they exchange cliché *au revoirs* — "don't say goodbye, it's not the end, I'm never far away" — in some hideously shrill upper register. But that encounter faces stiff competition from goofy lost boys, bumbling pirates, and Tinkerbell's near-death experience. Barrie clearly wanted the audience to save the flickering flambeau by spontaneously proclaiming its belief in fairies, and in my experience it always does so. Here, the credulous voices have been pre-recorded and come artificially banging out from loudspeakers all over the theatre. It's a mistake, all too characteristic of the evening.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Garden filled with delights

The Secret Garden
Watermill, Bagnor

Vital to the success of any adaptation of this superb tale is a credibly neglected garden, and a final meeting between embittered father and revitalised son that sets the tear-ducts working, *Jeremy Kingston writes*. Claire Lyth's clever set manages the first of these, and, speaking for my own tear-ducts, Gary Raymond and young Billy Worth achieve the second.

Raymond goes further. Though dressed throughout in funereal black, and never permitting a smile to lighten his pinched face, his faraway voice is always gentle. He moves carefully, every step bringing some reminder of his tragic past. At his first glimpse of his niece, the orphaned Mary Lennox, he is reminded of his dead wife, and his fixed expression and breaking voice are infinitely touching.

This adaptation is the musical version by Diana Morgan and Steven Markwick, originally written for the King's Head, Islington, and currently being revived there as the Christmas show. To be honest, the story does not need music except where it allows Raymond's Mr Craven the opportunity to convey his grief in words and, in an earlier scene, when Claire Russell's Mary (a good performance) can articulate her loneliness. These two songs show us feelings beyond the reach of dialogue.

But the jolly song for Gaye Brown's Mrs Medlock, recalling what fun life used to be, and the hymn to roses from Ben Weatherstaff (Kenneth Waller), add nothing important. Markwick makes some neat musical allusions — Edwardian music-hall for Mrs Medlock, Indian trills for "The Little Rajah" — but the neatest occurs in a song from Tim Godwin's Dickon that incorporates the notes from a robin.

By this time we are in the secret garden, first seen through gauze panels in the brick wall but now occupying the full width of the stage, where the robin is darting up and down the ivy. Frogs have already hopped through a pool, and soon badgers and a fox will emerge from holes and a stoat too.

Ian Talbot's direction keeps the scenes flowing, though fiercer tantrums are needed from Billy Worth's Colin. Everyone ends up in the secret garden in time for Raymond to sing "Is this the boy I locked away/Standing straight and true?" and by then it is tissue-time.

RECITAL

Lack of festive spirit

Elizabeth Connell
Wigmore Hall

NOBODY could accuse the Wigmore Hall's Christmas concerts of predictability this year. But the strenuous efforts to research ever more obscure programmes does sometimes seem to take its toll of the performance.

After a weekend "Christmas Cracker" which didn't exactly live up to its name, soprano Elizabeth Connell and Eugene Asti, her pianist, gave a "Christmas Recital" whose enterprising breadth of material was not quite matched by an equal range and energy of performing skills.

Not that Connell was in bad voice. It was simply that, whether she turned to a hushed meditation by Hugo Wolf, a "Bush Christmas" by Wendy Hiscocks, or an Andalusian carol, everything seemed to live in much the same emotional register, the same pleasing, but ultimately bland, tone of voice.

The sudden moments of real engagement with word, music and therefore audience, came when she was able to recreate a little dramatic scene: the urgent presence for instance, of "St Ita's Vision" from one of Samuel Barber's *Hermit Songs*, or the bright advent of the Angel of New Year as her voice rang out in Wolf's "Zum neuen Jahr".

Connell, who has a formidable string of Wagner projects ahead of her, perhaps really does need the smell of greasepaint now in order to focus her performance and musicianship.

It was good to hear the lesser known Peter Cornelius Christmas songs which frame the famous "Three Kings": it was refreshing to listen to the unaccompanied Dutch ballad, "The Little Shepherds" and to hear Fauré's "Noël". But the unique flavour of their musical and verbal languages was not really tasted to the full. Similarly, the final number from Jerry Herman's *Mame* was overshy of the footlights. Being musically festive is not *quite* as easy as draping the tinsel over the tree.

HILARY FINCH

First-class return to ghost town

Skaville
Cockpit, NW8

The programme for Paul Sirett's enjoyable though short play comes dressed as an EP record. It has its own plain sleeve with a circle cut out in the centre, and its title printed there in the style of ska's best-known record label, the black and white of 2-Tone.

I had forgotten how exhilarating ska could be, and we hear good chunks of it during the scene-changes. There were the Specials, who revived it in the late 1970s, the Beat, Madness and the Selecter, one of whose members was Sirett himself, so the play's provenance is impeccable.

Except for one brief scene on a beach, the action is set in a record shop that, at the start of the play, is down at heel and doing no business. Its owner, Martin (Gregory Campbell), declining into grumpy middle-age at 33, is making the serious mistake of playing a Mozart piano concerto when Eddie (Clint Dyer), an unstoppably loquacious young black guy, breezes into the shop and talks himself into a job by showing he knows where to get hold of illegal ska tapes and indie records.

Jane (Tara Hull), from the local Key Mart, and her thickish boyfriend Daz (Ben Joseph) complete a quartet whose lives we follow over the next two years, until Daz's decline into skinhead fascism brings the tragedy of the final scenes, and ska peters out.

Skaville is produced by Abacus Arts, the company founded by Hull two years ago, and is presented at the Cockpit as part of a season reviving shows that came and went before many learnt how good they were.

Sirett's play surfaced briefly at the New End last summer before going to Edinburgh, but is now at the Cockpit until mid-January. It will be enjoyed by all who danced through those years, or wished they had done. Not only is the dialogue piquant and spiky, but the story is a reminder that the history of ska and the post-punk period of early Thatcherism was a time when racism again became vicious.

The character of Martin is cursorily drawn and evolves jerkily, even allowing for the passage of time between scenes and the transformation wrought by his love affair with Eddie. But the other three are well-realised individuals, variously troubled, although not yet by unemployment, and unpolitical except at the street level of enjoying or opposing intolerance and riot.

MARILYN KINGWILL



Tara Hull and Clint Dyer meet to the beat of *Skaville*

Hull's Jane grows from a nervy girl, flung into a delighted tizzy by Eddie's rude boy talk, to become a young woman slamming out at mindless thuggery. Dyer's alert, attractive Eddie can be comical and passionate, and he does a great take-off of Shirley Bassey.

In Adrian Middleton's smartly paced direction the scene-changing dances catch the energy of the concerts they eagerly rush off to, and the background walls of Wendy Parry's set allow new posters and record sleeves to mark the passing months. We even have a succession of chalked-up Top 20 boards: there's devotion from stage management.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Boring hack work

The Pat Hobby Stories
Riverside Studios

The short stories starring the fictional Hollywood hack-turned-has-been, Pat Hobby, are not F. Scott Fitzgerald at his best. Though Fitzgerald knew that LA scene first-hand, his descriptive prose fails to dazzle. Paul Birchard's one-man show half-narrates, half-enacts only five of Hobby's sorry attempts to get back in with the studios' big shots. But frankly, five is a handful too many.

For one thing, Hobby's adventures are repetitive. Time and again, with vaguely comic hopelessness, he struggles to hit on bright ideas, habitually working the war into patently unrelated scripts. He regularly swigs liquor and doesn't get the dames. We see him inched out by hot young talent twice in a row.

But more tiresomely, the stories keep dumping you in a blind alley, having led you up avenues of anticipation. Our anti-hero, with a snowballing aversion to Orson Welles, whom he's never seen but everybody's talking about, intriguingly turns into a Welles lookalike. Hobby is just beginning to be mistaken for the great man when the narrative stops dead.

The fault does not really lie with Birchard's performance, although he looks too strapping in his double-breasted suit to embody his shabby main persona. He plays numerous parts adeptly, flicking from Hobby's wannabe Sam Spade suavity to a cute-talking broad. He conveys character simply, with a jutting jaw or a seductive finger. However, he's not on a par with Bob Kingdom or Kerry Shale, the masters of succinct caricature and infinite accents.

Michele Waering's direction should have sharpened the comic timing and structural phrasing, and eliminated the anachronistic photocopies and furniture from among the antique telephones and vintage *Time* magazines. Or better still, she might have binned the set altogether.

KATE BASSETT



Paul Birchard: has-been in Fitzgerald's Hollywood

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RADIO: How broad a church should 'Thought for the Day' represent?

It could get crowded in the pulpit

A cartoon by Rob Newman in *The Sunday Times* at the weekend showed the devil in front of a microphone about to deliver Radio 4's "Thought for the Day". The accompanying story contained something equally, although unintentionally, amusing: a remark by the BBC's head of religious broadcasting that the possibility of humanists being given access to "Thought for the Day" is something that "will be occupying me over Christmas".

An odd time of the year for the Rev Ernest Rea to be preoccupied with humanism, one might think, but it demonstrates that BBC Religion (as the department is called, to distinguish it from any other kind of religion) is undeniably a broad church.

The reason for Rea's Christmas contemplation is that next month he has to deliver a report on ways that access to "Thought for the Day", which can attract more than five million listeners in its 7.50am slot in the *Today* programme, could or should be broadened.

Already, to the dismay of purists, we get the thoughts of Muslims, Jews and Sikhs. But these are faiths, even if they are not inherently Western (any more than Christianity is inherently Western). The questions Rea has to answer concern whether humanism, and by extension agnosticism and atheism, are faiths?

There is a sizeable army of radio listeners to whom these questions matter a great deal. Most of them may not attend church, but they may well regard themselves as Christians — and this as a Christian country.

They are concerned that the BBC, as the national broadcasting institution, should not drift further into the dafter realms of political correctness by bowing to every passing theory in search of five minutes on the air.

"Thought for the Day" has enormous symbolic importance, because of its place in the schedules, and I believe it is right to allow non-Christian speakers access to it, although I am not impressed by the oft-quoted statistic about more people attending a mosque in Britain every week than visiting an Anglican church — what about Catholics, Methodists, et al?

Perhaps part of the problem at the BBC lies in the way that its departmental structure can sometimes reveal its attitudes. The biggest success produced by the religious department in Manchester is *The Moral Maze*, which could arguably be an outgrowth of current affairs for all that it has to do with religion per se.

Yet it can also be argued that most of the moral boundaries delineated by *The Moral Maze* are roughly based on Christian ethics, which is to say Christianity without the mumbo-jumbo. So there is already an assumption built into the BBC's structure that religion goes beyond Christianity and even beyond other religions into the realms of secular moralism, which presumably includes humanism.

Therefore Rea must either recommend that this situation be formalised, or take the line of "this far and no further". Whichever way he goes, the BBC faces a massive rumpus from minority interest groups or a massive rebellion from the mainstream "Thought for the Day" audience, which is already uneasy about the BBC view that religion and Christianity are not synonymous.

To return to Newman's cartoon, if all belief is faith, and all faith warrants five minutes on the radio, what price Satanism's "Thought for the Day"? There indeed is something to occupy us over Christmas.

PETER BARNARD

Tracts for their time, but also for ours

Geoffrey Rowell on a study of the Oxford Tractarians, who transformed Anglicanism but fell out over Rome

THE OXFORD MOVEMENT IN CONTEXT
Anglican High Churchmanship, 1760-1857
By Peter Nockles
Cambridge University Press, £40

The powerful and persuasive prose of John Henry Newman's *Apologia* gave a shape to the history of the Oxford Movement which has almost inevitably imprinted itself on subsequent accounts. Dean Church's classic study of the Movement is marked by his Anglican sense of the tragedy of Newman, who abandoned the movement he had led. Anglo-Catholic historiography too easily contrasted the vigour of the Oxford Tractarians with the torpor of what had gone before.

That revolution by tradition, which so profoundly transformed the Church of England and flowed out into the new Anglican churches overseas, was the more telling if the contrasts were sharp. The old High Churchmen, whom "apostolical" Oxford men labelled as the "Zs", were portrayed as too cautious and lacking the fire of the Spirit, unable or unwilling to "make a row in the world". It was Newman who arrived back in England in 1833, quoting the words of Achilles: "They shall know the difference now that I am back again."

Peter Nockles's important book redresses the balance and allows the contributions of the old High Churchmen proper weight. The doctoral thesis out of which this book has grown has already had a significant impact on Oxford Movement studies; it is good to have such an important revisionist assessment by a Roman Catholic scholar more readily available.

The fruit of long and painstaking research, Nockles's work draws on an extensive range of primary sources, enabling him to show that there was considerable life, and even reforming zeal, among High Churchmen such as the influential Hackney Phalanx, who were confidantes of Archbishop Manners-Sutton, and continued to be close to his successor, William Howley. They found themselves in the familiar position of not wishing to repudiate either the overall stance or the energies of the enthusiasts, yet wanting to distance themselves from some of their statements. As William Palmer of Worcester College, one of their most distinguished representatives, wrote: "The world mixes us and our principles entirely with the ultra men."

The Oxford Movement transformed the Church of England because at its heart there was a powerful religious impulse. One of the words most beloved of the Tractarians was *ethos*. They sought to change the culture of a complacent establishment by awakening a sense of the catholic continuity and identity of the Anglican Church, and by insisting on the centrality of the Christian call to holiness.

Yet the catalyst of the movement was the political and constitutional change of the 1820s and 1830s, which modified the Anglican confessional state and, by so doing, posed sharp questions of Anglican identity. One of the consequences of the Tractarian response to that challenge was that "Anglican" became an "ism", coined by Newman in 1837. Likewise "Anglo-Catholic": originally a 17th-century term indicating membership of the Church of England, came to be used to indicate the heirs of the Tractarians rather than old High Churchmen.

Nockles recognises that the Oxford Movement cannot be properly set in context without careful attention to the politics of Anglican High Churchmanship. Orthodox



John Henry Newman: tragic

churchmen were sharply critical of the theories of government originating from John Locke. For them the English constitution had a divine sanction and a theological rationale. They upheld a strong sacral theory of monarchy.

Similarly, Newman criticised Peel's legislation for reflecting utilitarianism: the Benthamites' "cheerful, hopeful view of human nature", combined with an unbounded trust in improvement through education, did not take the sinfulness of a fallen world seriously. In the *Tamworth Reading Room Letters*, Newman attacked the bland, liberal religion of useful knowledge: in *The Idea of a University*, he condemned the folly of attempting to curb the pride and passion of man by mere learning as equivalent to trying to cut granite rocks with thread of silk.

The Oxford Movement called up the past to redress present ills. The Tractarian leaders wished to recall the Church of England to a sense of Catholic continuity; yet, as the Evangelical William Goode ironically observed, there was often an ambiguity in their Catholic reference. "What a useful weapon that word 'Catholic' is! . . . with three syllables it settles everything . . . It is a magic word that turns everything it touches into gold."

There was an appeal to antiquity, to the Church of the Fathers — and that, too, was deeply embedded in Anglican apologetic. Later there was a concern to find some measure of rapprochement with contemporary Roman Catholic doctrine. Newman's theory of development enabled him to account for discrepancies in the Fathers and the later elaborations of Roman doctrine at the Council of Trent.

The old High Churchmen believed the Church of England to be Catholic, though they did not repudiate the label Protestant. But their understanding of the catholicity of the Church of England was too closely tied to the context of the confessional state to enable them to confront the challenge to Anglican identity posed by the new denominational pluralism ushered in by Catholic Emancipation and the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts. The Tractarians, and pre-eminently Newman, fought a strong battle, though in doing so they often neglected the strength of the older High Churchmen. In asserting the Catholic identity of the Church of England they came into conflict with both liberals and Evangelicals. If in the end they won, it was not by converting all Anglicans to their viewpoint but by extending the range of tolerated opinion. If part of the Oxford Movement's success was a transformation of Anglican worship, another part of it was, ironically, making the Church of England a broader church.

At the present time, Anglican Catholics are in disarray following a "Protestant" decision to decide unilaterally that women can be admitted to the priesthood. That disarray is because of the subversion of their ecclesiology. To be offered "an honoured place" within the Church of England may seem a generous gesture, but it is not the equivalent of the catholic identity claimed by the Oxford Movement fathers and their successors. Yet, as Nockles concludes, "the Movement's breadth of spiritual influence overrode its increasing tendency towards a churchy sectarianism". At the present crossroads for Catholic Anglicans, it is instructive to look again at both the tensions and the achievement of the Oxford Movement. For such a task, Nockles is an indispensable guide.

Dr Geoffrey Rowell is the Anglican Bishop of Basingstoke.



Night: this close-up by Aurelio Amendola shows how Michelangelo achieved a chromatic range by varying surface textures

Great smooth marbly limbs restored

Bruce Boucher

MICHELANGELO
The Medici Chapel
By James Beck, Antonio Paolucci and Bruno Santi
Thames & Hudson, £36

MICHELANGELO'S name is so indelibly linked to the frescoes of the Sistine Chapel that it is heartening to see a book dealing with another aspect of his genius: the Medici Chapel of San Lorenzo in Florence. Less celebrated than its Roman counterpart, the Medici Chapel is equally important. It is one of the few projects Michelangelo brought to relative completion and contains one-fifth of his surviving statuary. The sculptures have recently been the subject of a painstaking cleaning and their striking appearance is now celebrated in print.

Conceived as a memorial for the last direct descendants of Cosimo the Elder, the chapel was planned in the 1520s as a pendant to Brunelleschi's earlier Medici chapel, the Old Sacristy at San Lorenzo. For Michelangelo, the appeal of the commission lay in competition with Brunelleschi as well as in realising what the 15th-century architect had not been able to achieve. This was a "total work of art", in which sculpture and architecture would coalesce as a single entity, without interference from other artists.

Michelangelo achieved this by reducing the architecture to a stark, white and grey backdrop for two tombs that occupy opposite sides of the chapel. The tombs themselves were turned into allegories of active and contemplative life, with Giuliano and his accompanying figures of *Night* and *Day* representing the former and Lorenzo with *Dawn* and *Dusk* embodying the latter. The lighting was manipulated so that Giuliano's tomb looks constantly bright while Lorenzo's is shrouded in perpetual twilight. The individual monuments and the Medici princes were thus subsumed into a general statement on the human condition.

No one could appreciate how much these famous statues had been dulled by dirt and wax until cleaning began in 1988. Fortunately the restorers eschewed a high-tech treatment in favour of small quantities of distilled water and turpentine gradually applied to the sculptures over several years. Work was also carried out with natural light in order to simulate the conditions under which Michelangelo worked.

The restorers describe their intention as striking a balance between removing those elements contributing to the deterioration of the sculpture without disturbing its natural ageing process. Above all, their avoidance of chemical or abrasive cleaning has saved Michelangelo's sculpture from being turned into a shiny but lifeless copy of itself.

Their success is amply demonstrated here in Aurelio Amendola's handsome black and white photographs which show how the sculptor achieved a chromatic range through varying surface textures as well as by exploiting light and shade. Amendola's photographs give us an extremely valuable account of the sculptures and of the Medici Chapel's inventive architecture, which has more in common with Brunelleschi's creative reworking of antique motifs than with the academic classicism of Michelangelo's handiwork in San Lorenzo. But it is Agnese Parronchi and Franceso Parichi, the scrupulous and long-suffering restorers, who remain the heroes of *The Medici Chapel*.

Faith roaring, not withdrawing

Albert Read

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS
Travels in Catholic Europe
By Colm Toíbin
Jonathan Cape, £16.99

COLM Toíbin's travels in Catholic Europe are primarily personal ones. He has his reasons for investigating Roman Catholicism — his own upbringing in Ireland, his father's death — but he doesn't dwell on them. Instead, he sets out to discover what other people think.

Toíbin interviews academics, writers and politicians and asks why religion still forms a central part of people's lives in some parts of Europe but not in others. How does it connect with the societies people live in? He listens patiently, rarely interjecting his own views, or attempting generalisations. Instead he observes, elegantly storing up other people's ideas, and quietly trying to absorb their certainties into his confusion, their faith into his agnosticism.

In Vilnius, a Lithuanian newspaper editor named Algis Chekuolis remarks mournfully that the connection between religion and politics is all too clear. Under Soviet occupation, Catholicism provided an essential means of resisting the regime: and now that the Lithuanians are free to worship, very few do so. In Slovakia, the first open demonstration against the Communist regime was organised by the Catholic Church.

A Bavarian theologian calls himself a Catholic while doubting the existence of Hell, transubstantiation and the divinity of Jesus. English Catholics acquire the faith in the face of a nation which forbids its monarch to marry a Catholic and holds an annual fireworks party to celebrate the suppression of a Catholic rebellion.

Toíbin is sceptical about the extreme manifestations of Catholicism, and rightly so. Medjugorje in Croatia, formerly consisting of three buildings, is now a cosmopolitan hub with BMW taxis and smart hotel, thanks to the apparition of the Virgin Mary to four teenagers. Toíbin sees one of these teenage visionaries: he is smooth and suspicious, well dressed and sun tanned.

In Catholic countries religion is as much about the community as it is about the after-life. Palm Sunday in Seville is certainly a big social event, but even Toíbin at his most sceptical cannot fail to register the looks on people's faces as the statue of the Virgin Mary passes: "People stared . . . as though they had never seen anything like it in their lives, as though one of the wonders of the world had just passed in front of them."

In a small town in Italy, a hundred women stand barefoot, guarding another of the Virgin Mary's effigies through a whole cold night. From a monastery wall, Toíbin watches a group of a million young people who have come to see the Pope in Krakow, as they link hands and "sway back and forth like waves . . . to a beautiful tune."

Toíbin writes beautifully: his style is dispassionate and honest. He strikes a careful balance between reportage and self-scrutiny. As a travel writer, he opens our eyes to Eastern Europe (Ljubljana in Slovenia is "part of an illustration or a dream rather than a real city", while Vilnius is "the dullest city I have ever been to".

As a Catholic writer, however, he is more reluctant to come to conclusions. He ends his travels in the crowds of St Peter's Square in Rome for the Pope's Easter blessing. He is expecting something different, to be transported onto a grand plain of religious experience. Instead, all he finds are the same simple tunes that he learnt in Ireland and — on a note of curious optimism — the same Catholic Church of his childhood.



Ireland, 1962: one of the American photographer Elliott Erwitt's witty vignettes from his collection *Between the Sexes* (Norton, £25). Erwitt, a member of Magnum, the photographers' co-operative, includes pictures taken from 1949 to 1993: Erwitt's is a candid camera, but his taste is reliable

Visions of Jesus as our mother

Julian Gibbs

JULIAN OF NORWICH'S SHOWINGS
From Vision to Book
By Denise Nowakowski Baker
Princeton University Press, £34.95

Julian of Norwich was the first woman to write in English and the first known to have written a book. She lived in the last quarter of the 14th century, alone in a basement cell attached to a church in Norwich. In 1373, when she was seriously ill and apparently at the point of death, she had a series of visions or "showings", mostly of Christ on the Cross, which she went on to write about twice: a shorter text written soon after the experience and a much longer, more theological one written about 20 years later.

In this, the first major assessment of her significance as a visionary and theologian, Denise Nowakowski Baker places Julian in her 14th-century context, arguing that the pattern and visual details of the showings owe much to contemporary devotional traditions. But she also points out that, as a theologian, Julian was astoundingly original, and often goes beyond pre-existing views, whether orthodox or heretical.

In her explanation of evil, for example, Julian argues that "sin is behovely" and part of God's scheme: through the repentance following sin, we receive a grace which brings greater knowledge of ourselves and of God than we had before. Controversially, Julian denied that original sin meant that we are attracted to evil. She emphasised the growth of goodness in humankind and God's plan of salvation, insisting that "all shall be well and all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well".

This is a warm and optimistic view of things and what emerges from this book is not only how original Julian was, but how nice. She is always full of compassion, the tone in which she describes poor sinning, suffering humankind is maternal. This is probably one reason why she is so attractive to 20th-century feminist Christians: another is her amplification of the earlier idea of Jesus as Mother.

Julian was sensitive to prejudice against her as a female religious thinker. She excuses herself from the Church's prohibition against female teachers, claiming "as a woman, ignorant, weak and frail" to speak only as God's messenger. However, in her longer book she makes no apology. Baker does not mention this, but perhaps it is evidence of Julian's growing belief in herself as a religious writer.

Another aspect of Julian's theology which is attractive to the 20th century is her refusal to attribute vengeance to God. She seems almost to have believed that we create Hell ourselves through the misery and isolation from God that sinning causes us. She does acknowledge the Church's teaching that unrepentant sinners will be eternally damned, but she also claims to have received Christ's "confidential advice" that on the last day God will save all the condemned in Hell and that what may seem impossible for her is possible for Him.

After struggling through Baker's book I was glad I had made myself do so. Baker guides her reader almost too conscientiously through the intricacies of medieval devotional culture and theology; every point is made very thoroughly. In the last chapter she pays tribute to Julian's powers of composition, especially in the longer text. She does not, however, comment on the strength and liveliness of Julian's language to which her own dry prose is in sad contrast. Nevertheless, the rigour of this historical assessment is impressive.

Early in her book, Baker remarks that Julian probably called herself after the Church of St Julian, where she was an anchorite. Julian was a female name in the past — I know this because I am called Julian after the heroine of an apparently well-researched historical novel set in the 16th century. People often assume that I am called after Julian of Norwich. Now I'll have to explain, not only that I'm not, but that she wasn't called Julian either. We don't really know the original name of the first woman to write in English; only — as she would probably have wished — the name she gave herself, as a Christian devoted to the contemplation of God.

Julian Gibbs is a medievalist and a schoolteacher.

WEEKEND BOOKS

Gerald Kaufman on Abel Gance and his *Napoleon*; Giles Coren on last-minute literary gifts; *Palgrave's Treasury* revisited; Richard Morrison plays the last post for military bands; plus Daniel Johnson's column

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What is the city but the people?

Stella Tillyard on a polymath's account of how cities mirrored bodily geometry



Urban utopia: the sculptor Raymond Mason's *St Mark's Place, East Village, New York*, 1972, from *Raymond Mason* by Michael Edwards (Thames & Hudson, £30)

Starting in the Athens of Pericles and ending in New York's Greenwich Village today, Richard Sennett's new book offers a tour of Western cities that seeks to ask two related questions: how did attitudes toward the body affect urban architecture and space? And how did the experience of these spaces change attitudes towards the body?

Athenians, Sennett says, believed that human bodies were hierarchically ordered from female to male, cold to hot, bottom to top, and consequently they developed a cult of the muscular male body, brought to warm perfection by mental and physical exercise. In the gymnasium and other civic spaces, especially the agora and the temple, young men were trained in citizenship, a state expressed in moral and physical uprightness, in debate and in love between men. Conversely, women and slaves, the bulk of the Athenian population, were denied entry to the urban spaces and rituals in which citizenship was enacted. For them, the architecture of the city was always alien, sometimes a threat. Though he does not explicitly define it, this is Sennett's counter-theme, running throughout the book.

The Romans substituted bodily geometry for bodily heat. Following Vitruvius, bodily geometry could be translated into architecture and urban plans which reflected a well-ordered empire. Starting from the "umbilicus", the city centre, the Romans built outwards in a grid corresponding to the geometry of the body. Wherever they went, they built according to the same plan, believing that their cities could create new imperial citizens.

Outside this order, cultivating new ideas about the body, were the early Christians, who emphasised the body's pain, expressed in the Passion. The city's spaces became sites of compassion: by 1328, Paris had 60 church-run hospitals as well as numerous almshouses. It also had a thriving economy, the principles of which were at odds with Christian values of charity, poverty and otherworldliness. The resulting tension between the needs of commerce and the desire for Christian spaces reached its apotheosis in 16th-century Venice.

Venice depended for its prosperity on non-Italians. Nowhere else in Europe was citizenship defined against so many degrees of difference and nowhere was the attempt at segregating citizens and non-citizens so extreme. As Venice declined, fear of foreigners grew, and with it walls surrounding those whose bodies and beliefs might corrupt Christian spaces. Dalmatians, Turks, Persians, Greeks and Armenians lived in rigidly-defined and policed spaces.

Germans had to live in the Fondaco Tedesco. But it was with the Jews, whose bodies were regarded as corrupting to Christian piety, that confinement was made absolute, in the Ghetto Nuovo of 1516. The Ghetto was an island, surrounded by canals and sealed off at night; within its cramped spaces, Sennett says, a new Jewish identity was forged, entangled with this repressive geography.

FLESH AND STONE
The Body and the City in Western Civilisation
By Richard Sennett
Faber, £25

In the 17th century the master image of the body changed: circulation replaced body heat. Bodies needed clean air around them, public health became a new priority. In the centuries after Harvey's discovery of the circulation of the blood, the city came to be seen and planned as a place of movement, an organic body with veins, arteries, a heart and lungs. Wide streets, railways and expressways encouraged the citizen to move about.

But this new freedom was inevitably compromised. The open spaces in which Parisians were supposed to express their liberty during the Revolution were also sites of execution. Haussmann's great boulevards divided and ruled over Paris's poor. The London Underground separated class from class. As cities became ever more diverse, citizens in trains and automobiles became more alienated. Only urban pockets like Greenwich Village, Sennett concludes, offer hope that modern cities can be places where bodily diversity and physical pain are accepted, as they must be, he says, if humanity is to have any compensation for its exile from the Garden of Eden.

This is Sennett's argument, laboriously distilled from the book's 400 pages; but it is not the book that he wrote. *Flesh and Stone* is chaotically de-centred, its highways crossed and recrossed by digressive byways. The section on pagan Rome ends with notes on Byron's mistranslation of a poem by Hadrian, that on Christian Rome with a discussion of a fable by Nietzsche.

BACKLIST

Other works by Richard Sennett

THE CONSCIENCE OF THE EYE
1991, Faber, £9.99 pbk

AUTHORITY
1980, Faber, £9.99 pbk

THE FALL OF PUBLIC MAN
1977, Faber, £9.99 pbk

THE HIDDEN INJURIES OF CLASS
1972, Faber, £9.99 pbk

THE USES OF DISORDER
1971, Faber, forthcoming

The chapter on Edwardian London treats us to pages on the development of upholstery and the manufacture of chairs.

There may be a point to this rambling. At the beginning of the book, Sennett invokes Foucault, both the vigorous master inveighing against "power in society" and the dying sage who late in life accepted bodily pleasure and diversity. *Flesh and Stone* echoes this invocation. It resists any kind of totalising structure and invites us to celebrate its architecture of diversity, inclusivity and tolerance: a Greenwich Village of a book, then, in which anything goes.

This anti-authoritarian attempt fails for two reasons. First, the book's incoherence will baffle many readers, who may think themselves inadequate to its intellectual sweep. Second, as an object it is redolent of authority: it is beautifully produced and comes with the imprimatur of a famous publishing house. Sennett may think he has constructed in prose his architecture of equality, but his digressions form a labyrinth in which his readers are lost. If he is really egalitarian he should state his argument clearly and allow us, his fellow citizens in the republic of letters, to decide whether we agree. Because he doesn't, his tour of Western cities turns out be to nothing more than a power trip.

Heady-headed argot saga

Michael Hofmann

THE THOUGHT GANG
By Tibor Fischer
Polygon, £8.99 pbk original

UNDER THE FROG, Tibor Fischer's wonderful first novel, dealt with a group of young men — a works basketball team — in Hungary between 1945 and 1956. It was a spirited and uncommonly authentic account of a time the author hadn't directly experienced (Fischer's parents fled to England after the uprising, he was born in 1959). The humour, an original blend of continental black political humour with English flippancy, gained its nobility and distinction by reflecting on actual and dreadful events, as witness the last sentence, quoted from memory: "Tears, in teams, abseiled down his face." It was a youthful and irrepressible performance.

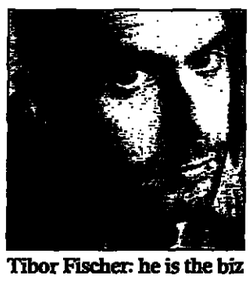
By contrast, Fischer's second novel, *The Thought Gang*, is utterly English and as frankly escapist as, say, P.G. Wodehouse. (His two bank robber heroes evoke Psmith and Mike every bit as much as Robin Hood and Little John). Its humour is autonomous, ubiquitous and safe. It has the madcap gusto, the whiff of varsity — or even nursery — of much English funny writing. Where *Under the Frog* suggested a Czech film from the sixties, *The Thought Gang* wouldn't look out of place as a comedy series on British television.

Fischer takes as his narrator Eddie Coffin: a bald, feckless, 50-year-old Cambridge philosopher on the run from the police in France. His sidekick is a French gangster Hubert, one-time "perpetual" (lifer), three parts prosthesis to one of flesh, the original one-armed armed robber.

The pair of them rob, drink and philosophise their way round the Côte d'Azur, knocking over banks with an irresistible combination of force and logical persuasion. *The Thought Gang* is a highly stylised paean to sex and violence, France, alcoholic indulgence, the stupidity of policemen and cleverness, especially pointless cleverness.

The book is as ornate and quirky as a banknote. It has comic running titles and ornamental rows of question marks between sections. It has a regularly consummated love-affair with the Greek language, a thing about words beginning with "Z", a preoccupation with the millennium (one of Coffin's never-written works — unless it be this book, which in a sense it is — has the title *The Two Meets the Three Zeroes* — and in Greek 2000 was written as "Z"), a pally liaison with Western philosophy (referred to as "the biz"), and in particular the Ionians, whose thought, the canny Coffin would have us infer, would fit comfortably on one side of a potsherd. All this is delivered in a strenuous argot — reminiscent of *Money* or *A Clockwork Orange* — that is tirelessly inventive.

This is where the book really scores. I could happily fill pages with Fischerisms: dining in restaurants becomes "high class zoophagy", drinking "industrial transfusions of grape blood", flushing an unwilling toilet is "giving it the handle", a bank is a "dosh-house" and philosophers the "heady-headed". A hangover is: "The day had slipped a sample of its wares through the curtains on to the ceiling. I wasn't impressed." I don't think I have ever read a novel — certainly not a comic novel



Tibor Fischer: he is the biz

— that was written largely using the resources of lyric poetry: metaphor, personification, alliteration, repetition and the rest of them.

Coffin's personal style is confected out of all sorts of (normally) incompatible elements: abstruse learning, rhyming slang, turns of phrase derived from American or French, neologisms and just sheer display. In the end, the real hero of the book is language, which has rarely been handled with as much irreverence, fun and ingenuity as by Tibor Fischer. It is ironic that this wacky and amoral and freewheeling book should end up in praise of learning, and by preaching the joys of a large vocabulary.

Turning into a frightened child

Rachel Campbell-Johnston

THE ARISTOCRAT
By Ernst Weiss
Serpent's Tail, £8.99 pbk original

HIMMELFARB
By Michael Krüger
Quartet, £10 pbk original

Ernst Weiss and Michael Krüger bring a modernist flavour to the *Bildungsroman*, the novel of self-formation. Turning away from the prototypical example of the genre, Goethe's *Wilhelm Meister*, they reject not only traditional values and assumptions, but also the rhetoric by which these were communicated.

On the surface *The Aristocrat* and *Himmelfarb* seem very different. The former is set in the house of Onderkuhle, an exclusive boarding school where the sons "of the houses of pure blood... receive an education in accordance with their rank". Told with all the immediacy of the present tense, it is characterised by a rich extravagance of description and the irrepressible imagination and furious vitality of its hero, Boëtius von Orlamünde.

Himmelfarb, by contrast, is a retrospective account of an anthropologist's expedition into the Brazilian rainforest to document what he sees as "the bleak and repugnant traditions" of indigenous Indians. The narrator, "old and rich enough to be able to afford a comfortable pessimism", remains constantly on his guard lest the "firm shell of heartlessness begin to crumble".

Both novels, however, confront the search for identity. At first their protagonists struggle to affirm a sense of self by asserting their dominance within a hierarchical system. For Boëtius this is embodied in etiquette, "all the refinements of aristocratic discourse", while in *Himmelfarb* it is represented by the cultural values of the German Reich which the narrator, Richard, tries to impose, not only upon the Brazilian Indians, but also upon the expatriate Jew who accompanies him into the jungle. Each gradually learns that identity cannot be so easily defined. Boëtius fails the ultimate trial which might justify his rank, while Richard realises that the Jew on whose life he is parasitical has a vision and vitality which render his own achievements worthless.

Yet, though the world of each protagonist crumbles around him, no new or redemptive structure is offered in its place. Both Weiss (writing in 1928) and Krüger (writing in 1993) have seen the inhumanities of war and know the horrors that can result from the regimentation of men. "Now that everything has turned into flow, movement, trembling dissolution", says Richard in *Himmelfarb*, "now that the chaotic now unanchored memories plague me and undercut any order and hierarchy I'm turning into a frightened child." *Himmelfarb* is a sort of *Bildungsroman* in reverse. "Thank God", he says, "that the Third World War, which everyone seems to have forgotten about, will take place only after my death."

Boëtius likewise finds no new answers. It is significant that almost exactly one year to the day from the denouement of the novel Archduke Ferdinand was assassinated in Sarajevo. In just one year Boëtius would have been an officer in the German Army, his identity once more defined by his rank.

It seems disquietingly significant that Weiss himself committed suicide the day after Nazi troops entered Paris. The spectre of death overshadows these novels, an image of the alienation, loss and despair which is the inheritance of the 20th-century mind.

CORRECTION

Our review by Daniel Johnson of David Yallop's book *To the Ends of the Earth*, about Carlos the Jackal (February 25, 1993), could have been interpreted as suggesting that Mr Yallop had published names of some of his sources and thus jeopardised their safety. This would have been entirely inaccurate and we apologise to Mr Yallop if the review contained this unintended meaning. We also accept that Mr Yallop scrupulously maintains the confidentiality and anonymity of his sources when asked to do so.

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Anthony Grafton, LONDON REVIEW OF BOOKS

FontanaPress £14.99 P/B

Hebrew but not of the Hebrews

Julia Neuberger

THIS YEAR IN JERUSALEM
By Mordecai Richler
Chatto & Windus, £16.99

In the wake of the peace treaty between Jordan and Israel, with the gradual normalisation of relationships between Israel and her Arab neighbours, with the deal with the PLO, *This Year in Jerusalem* has a certain promise as a title. But his publisher claims that Mordecai Richler "travels to Israel to look for his roots". Untrue. He no more travels to Israel to look for his roots than I would. His roots lie in Montreal, and in the East European shtetls before that, as mine lie in Britain, and in Germany before that.

Much more important is his search for what it means to live as an unobservant Jew in the diaspora as the scion of an illustrious rabbinical family. Richler was once moved by the Zionist dream as a teenager to join Habonim, the socialist Zionist youth movement which led for many of its members to "aliyah": emigration to Israel as the fulfilment of their dreams.

Richler joined Habonim for both good and bad reasons. He wanted to escape from the strict Orthodoxy of home, and particularly of his grandfather, with whom in later life he never spoke again. He wanted the social life to be found there. He had met the inimitable Jerry Greenfield, the lad the girls loved, with his effortless gift for hockey, baseball and everything the wimpish and studious Richler could not manage well. Throughout this volume, Jerry, more and more dissolute, keeps pitching up. He never went to Israel: the leader of the Habonim pack turns out to be hollow-centred, always out for a loan, cheating on his friends. More significantly, of the four close friends from Habonim, who had assumed they would make aliyah together, none did.



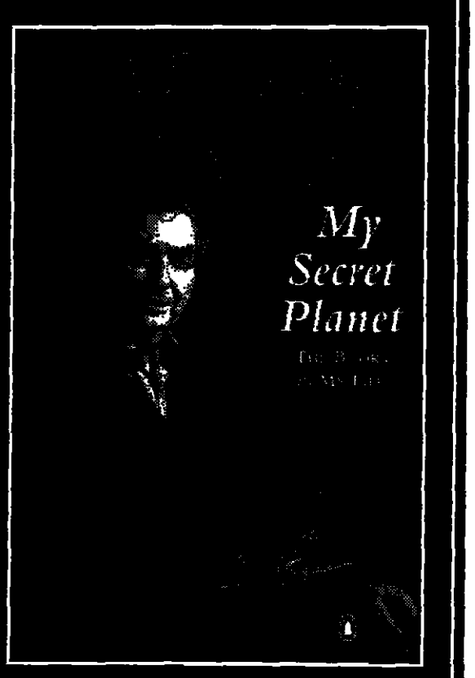
Richler: diaspora roots

Yet Richler goes on this later journey, looking up old Habonim friends and meeting cousins. He travels in luxury with his non-Jewish wife. He finds his friends have little money, having lived a hard life while he reached fame and fortune in North America. Richler examines the old socialism of Habonim, and remembers his joy at the British postwar Labour victory, with a Jew, Harold Laski, as a leading player. The realisation came later that many of his Labour heroes, such as the Webbs and Hugh Dalton, were anti-Semitic. The idealist's illusions were not shattered at the time. And to some extent they are still not, for his liberal instincts are intact.

He ends with a polemic against Ruth Wisse, "one of Likud's most impassioned advocates", who believes that any Jew who criticises Israel is compromised by an unacknowledged need to win the approval of the gentiles. It is not a new argument. The Jews used to be described as craven by their non-Jewish critics. Now those Jews who object to some of the actions of the Jewish state are also described as craven — but this time by their fellow Jews. Richler has no sympathy for this, and ends, unsurprisingly, with a call for peace.

But he leaves us wondering about his own Jewish identity. Not an Israeli, no longer an ardent Zionist, not a practising Jew, living in Britain and Canada — what is he? Who is he? I know where he stands on Israel. But I still do not know where he stands on Judaism, and Jewish survival, for himself, his half-Jewish children, and this modern age. The promise to tell is unfulfilled.

A collection of prose and poetry that has provided Denis Healey with pleasure through his life...



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Fighting to save duty-free shopping

The British spend £1.3 billion a year in duty-free shops — yet this booming business could close down before the end of the century. Tony Dawe reports

Duty-free shopping has become an essential part of Christmas for hundreds of thousands of Britons. It launches most foreign holidays, but has become more than just a bit of fun.

It is big business, worth £10 billion a year around the world, at least £5 billion in Europe and £1.3 billion in Britain alone. Duty-free earns BAA, Britain's leading airport operator, almost as much as landing fees; it provides a third of the total revenue of the cross-Channel ferry companies and makes the difference between profit and loss for many charter airlines.

Companies such as Allders, Forte and Aer Rianta in Ireland have boomed by running duty-free shops in leading airports. Famous retailers including Harrods, Mappin & Webb and Berry Bros & Rudd have moved into Heathrow airport's departure lounges to offer passengers quality goods free of duty or VAT, or both. The Scotch whisky industry would be lost without it.

Yet although business is booming and bargain-seeking shoppers cross the Channel in their thousands every week, Europe's duty-free industry is under threat. The European Commission regards it as an anachronism in a free trade community and wanted to end it within Europe when the single market was created last year. A fierce campaign by retailers, airport authorities and travel companies won a reprieve until June 30, 1999.

Duty-free shopping could end earlier, however, if Eurotunnel has its way. The Channel Tunnel company has started legal proceedings to outlaw the business, arguing that its competitors are enjoying an unfair and discriminatory advantage under European free trade laws because they can subsidise fares from the profits on duty-free sales.

The Eurostar trains running through the tunnel from London to Paris and Brussels are not allowed to sell duty-free goods and it is also impractical to sell them on Le Shuttle's short service from Folkestone to Calais, although passengers can make a detour to duty-free shops at the two terminals.

Eurotunnel's case is being resisted by the airlines, ferry companies and retailers, and after a High Court ruling in the new year the case is expected to move into the European courts. The duty-free industry is also preparing itself for a longer fight to persuade the European Union to allow the reprieve to continue beyond 1999, for, without sales to people travelling within Europe, its pickings would be very thin.

"The date concentrates the mind," Frank O'Connell, head of the International Duty Free Confederation and an Aer Rianta executive, says. "At this stage we are just putting the pieces in place. But as we go along, our research will be incorporated into a lobbying campaign."

"Why do away with something which works?" Barry Goddard, secretary-general of Britain's Duty Free Confederation, asks. "It is tightly controlled and does not contradict the definition of the European single market. We still have 12 fiscal authorities imposing their own duties and taxes.

"We shall be fighting long and hard on these points and on the crucial factor that it is an industry which benefits a large number of people, travellers and businesses alike."

> Europe's duty-free industry is under threat. It should end on June 30, 1999

He argues that the industry provides good bargains which help to keep travel costs down. "People love buying duty-frees; it is a fun thing which adds to the enjoyment of travel," he says. "There is some criticism that prices are too high, but while the operators are making profits they are also sharing the benefits with customers. You wouldn't get 30 million people a year buying duty-frees if they were a rip-off."

He also counters Eurotunnel's claim that the duty-free trade represents a total loss to the British Exchequer of £600 million a year in excise duty and VAT. "That figure assumes that all duty and tax-free sales would be replaced by equivalent purchases in the UK market and that would never happen," he says. The Confederation estimates the loss at £100 million, less than the Chancellor is now losing on beers, wines and cigarettes, bought in bulk at cheaper prices in continental shops by Britons for consumption at home.

Mr Goddard admits, however, that the campaign would be difficult to win if the EU moved towards fiscal unity, including a single currency. He gives warning of the dire consequences of ending the industry. "If duty-free goes, then fares will rise and fewer people are likely to travel, leading inevitably to fewer jobs in the travel industry and ancillary services."

Airlines also admit that they — and their passengers — would be hit hard. "The abolition of duty-free would not be good news for holidaymakers," Stuart Brooks, of Britannia Airways, says. "Lost revenue at UK and overseas airports would need to be recovered somehow and increased airport charges for airlines would be one likely source.

"Charter airlines would need to increase their seat rates to tour operators, making the holiday more expensive and as a result the travel agent's commission would increase. The cost of a package holiday could rise by up to £13 a passenger, which for a family of four would be very considerable. Britannia is exploring other sources of income but as yet none is likely to make up for lost revenue."

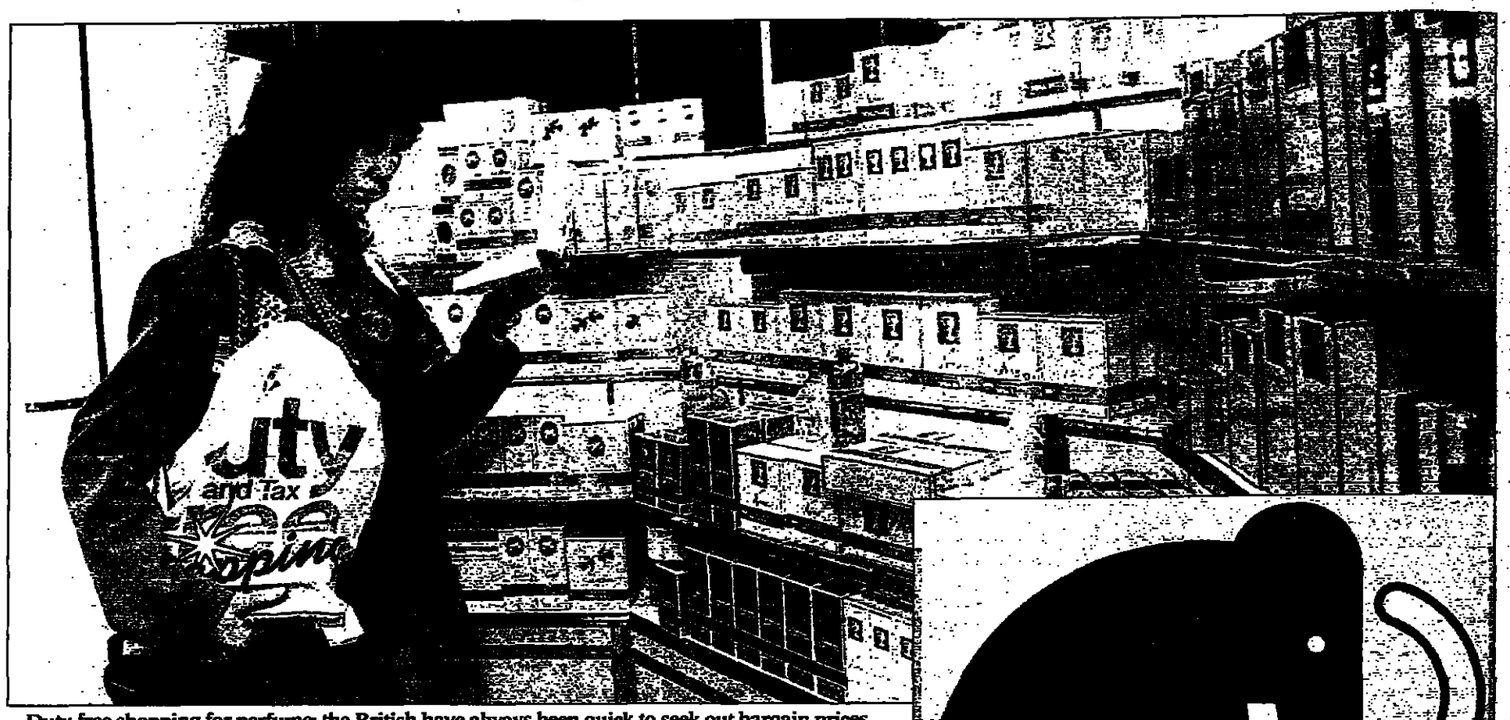
> BAA and the ferry companies are expanding other outlets to offset any loss of profits

BAA and the ferry companies have embarked, however, on a policy of expanding other retail outlets to offset any possible loss of duty-free profits. BAA says that an important element of its strategy is significantly to increase retail space at its airports.

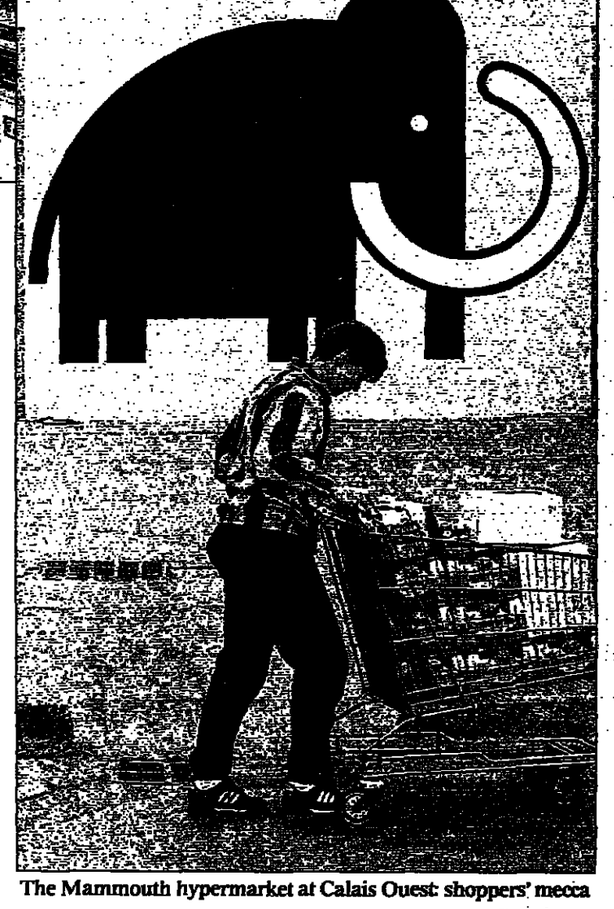
Recent developments have included an expansion of Gatwick's landside shopping and catering facilities and the creation of an airside shopping mall in Terminal 3.

Aberdeen airport's terminal has been refurbished with a new bookstore, café and four larger retail units as well as a new duty-free shop. These projects follow on from the success of the airside shopping facilities created in Heathrow's Terminal 4 where Aquascutum, Austin Reed, Bally, Hamleys, Jaeger and The Scotch House all have tax-free shops.

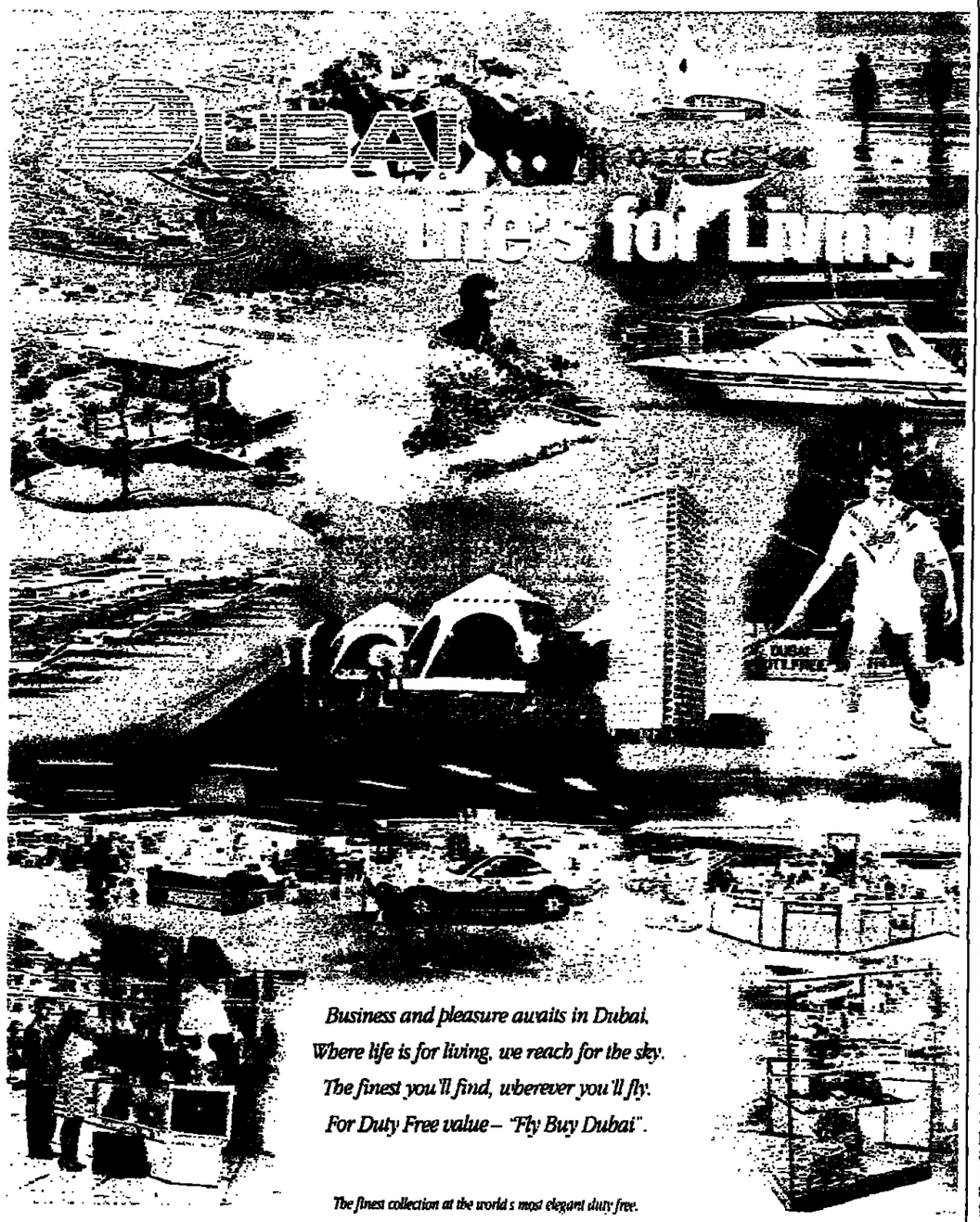
Ian Todd, of P&O European Ferries, says: "We are working at expanding our on-board shopping base to include more tax-free shops and catering facilities. While sailing in international waters, we can sell a wide range of goods without charging VAT, including cosmetics, jewellery, CDs, stereos and confectionery. We are shifting such huge amounts that we can get very good prices from suppliers."



Duty-free shopping for perfume: the British have always been quick to seek out bargain prices



The Mammouth hypermarket at Calais Ouest: shoppers' mecca



How much is enough?

PASSENGERS travelling by air and sea to and from countries within the European Union are allowed to buy these quantities of duty and tax-free items:

- 200 cigarettes or 100 cigarillos or 50 cigars or 250g of tobacco.
- two litres of still table wine.
- 1 litre of spirits or strong liqueurs over 22 per cent volume or 2 litres of fortified wine, sparkling wine or other liqueurs.
- 60cc/ml of perfume.
- 250cc/ml of toilet water.
- £71 (90 Ecu) worth of all other goods including gifts and souvenirs.

(People under 17 cannot have the tobacco or alcohol allowances.)

YOUR ALLOWANCES

Under EU law, duty and tax-free shops cannot sell you more than these quantities each time you travel to or from another EU country. You can buy them on each journey you make and bring them back to the UK as long as they are for your personal use.

If you buy tobacco, alcohol, perfume and gifts from ordinary shops in the EU, you don't have to pay further duty or tax provided they are for your use. EU law sets out guidance levels, and if you bring in more you must be able to prove, if asked by Customs, that it is for your own use — or risk seizure of the items. These are the guidance levels:

- 800 cigarettes, 400 cigarillos, 200 cigars.
- 1kg smoking tobacco.
- 10 litres spirits.
- 20 litres fortified wine.
- 90 litres (10 cases) of wine, not more than 60 litres of it sparkling wine.
- 110 litres (about 60 4-packs) of beer.

The tobacco, alcohol and perfume allowances are exactly the same for travellers returning to the UK from countries outside the EU, except that you can buy them only once, either on the outward or return journey. You are allowed to bring in £136-worth of other goods — if you bring in more, you will be charged duty on the full value.

Robin Young on the savings to be had on day trips to the Continent

Great Christmas goodies from sorties abroad

When Christmas comes, people do not want to pay duty on it. Duty-free shopping, big business year round, assumes jumbo proportions. Santa's sleigh slides past the customs officers more heavily laden with duty-free baccy, grog and gifts every year.

When the going gets tough, the tough go shopping. It is the ready availability of myriad bargains free of excise duty and VAT that helps to make a tough life tolerable for frequent-flyers and business travellers whose jobs condemn them to a state of almost perpetual motion.

And for the rest of us, the most effective mid-winter travel incentive of all is the subsidy the Government offers in the shape of cut-price goodies to be brought home from sorties abroad.

The ferry companies estimate that well over two million people will be taking day trips to the Continent this month solely to benefit from the savings to be had on duty-free goods and personal imports of wines, beers, spirits and tobacco. P&O European Ferries estimates that traffic and takings will be at least a fifth up this year on last.

Chris Laming, of Stena Sealink, says: "We are doing everything we can to promote the traffic." He points out that passengers who buy their duty-free allowances on both outward and inward crossings can save £289 each simply by buying 12 24-can cases for the price of ten of Fosters Export Lager. The cost is £109.90, compared with a high street price of almost £400.

Adding two litres of Glenfiddich malt whisky at £9.99 each and 400 Benson & Hedges King Size cigarettes at £19.98 brings the individual traveller's saving on a typical "basket" of duty-free goods to more than £350.

P&O European Ferries' Christmas promotions include an extra saving of £5 on 200 Benson & Hedges for everyone on the Dover-Calais route buying a litre of selected malt whisky, while on sailings from Portsmouth those spending £25 or more receive a £5 voucher to spend on spirits, cigarettes, wines or confectionery. The savings quickly reimburse the winter daytrip return fares, which start from £5 for a foot passenger or £20 for a car and up to four occupants.

There are similar Christmas bonuses offered by all the other ferry companies such as Hoverspeed, Brittany Ferries and Sally, and the duty-free allowances also apply, of course, on routes to Ireland as well as other continental countries.



While the ferries undergo their seasonal transformation, business is also booming in the shopping malls at airport terminals. Heathrow already sells a bottle of whisky every 18 seconds throughout the year, while Gatwick shifts 5.6 million measures of Gordon's gin and enough Silk Cut cigarettes to stretch the distance of the Channel Tunnel and back.

Yet at the airports it is emphatically not all booze and baccy. BAA airports account for nearly a tenth of the total UK perfume market, the Mappin & Webb shop at Heathrow's Terminal 4 is the UK's biggest selling outlet of Rolex watches, the Laura Ashley unit at Heathrow's Terminal 3 produces the highest sales per square foot of all the company's shops, and Heathrow's Bally shoe stores fit 78,000 pairs of feet a year.

Caviar House's airport shops sell 5,000kg of caviar, 9,500kg of smoked salmon and 13,000 tins of *foie gras* annually, with demand for all its delicacies peaking at Christmas.

By commissioning regular price surveys, BAA claims to ensure that savings of 50 per cent off the average UK high street price are guaranteed on 33 of the most popular liquor products sold in its airports' duty-free shops.

Not all the best bargains are necessarily to be found at the British end of the journey though. A recent survey by the French consumers' organisation UFC-*Que Choisir* compared prices for 150 popular duty-free items, and found that Milan, Athens and Madrid had the best deals in spirits. Madrid, Lisbon and Athens offered the cheapest cigarettes, while Dublin, Amsterdam and London were cheapest for CDs. Dublin, Athens and Milan sold the lowest-priced perfumes. London's duty-free shops were found to be the most expensive for both spirits and cigarettes.

And while tobacco products were on average two-thirds dearer in high street shops, spirits more than half as expensive and perfumes a quarter dearer, there were smaller savings in the duty-frees on watches, consumer electronics and other gifts. Disposable cameras and films were often more expensive in duty-free shops than in town. The allowance for electronic equipment, cameras and such bought from duty-free sources within the EU is £71.

هكذا من الأصل

The profits from the huge scale of goods bought help to keep down the price of holidays, **Tony Dawe** reports

Where more is much less



Shop till you have to stop: after the duty-free spending in continental supermarkets comes the struggle to get everything home on the coach without breaking a single bottle

Who would imagine that 15,000 toy rabbits are sold on P&O's Dover-Calais ferry crossings every year? But it is true — and just one of the many bizarre statistics which the travel industry loves to produce to prove the popularity of duty and tax-free shopping.

P&O also claims to be the world's biggest seller of large Toblerone bars, while Britannia Airways' passengers bought 34 tonnes of the chocolate last year. The holiday airline also points out that if all the cigarettes purchased inflight last year were laid end to end they would stretch from London to Las Vegas. Passengers at London's Heathrow and Gatwick airports sucked their way through 500,000 packets of Polo mints last year.

These statistics are just a simple way of showing the importance to travel companies of duty and tax-free shopping. Ferry operators, airlines and airport authorities all freely admit that it can make the difference between profit and loss.

Gareth Cooper, Stena Sealink's managing director, says: "At this time of year, we sell tickets to travel on ships for a smaller price than the port dues. We have to make sure, therefore, that onboard sales more than cover the operating costs of the business.

"The ferry industry has changed dramatically over the past few years, not just because of the Channel Tunnel. We have increased capacity to meet demand in the peak season but that could leave us with low volumes in the winter. We have therefore created a new range of products, including short breaks, day trips and cruises, all at advantageous prices. A lot of the traffic is generated by the attractions of duty-free goods."

Alcohol and tobacco, followed by gifts and fragrances, are the main revenue-earners, but Mr Cooper is also keen to extend tax-free shopping and income from food and beverages. The company has brought in executives from supermarket chains and hotel groups to advise on its retail activities, and has introduced a McDonald's on the new ferry *Fantasia* and Easy Diner and Globetrotter fast food outlets on other ships.

P&O European Ferries is following the same path, selling an increasing range of confectionery, soft toys and fashion items including clothing by Fruit of the Loom and menswear by Gabicci. The company says that one third of its annual revenue of £600 million comes from onboard sales, including food and beverages, but principally duty-free goods.

The holiday airlines cannot match these revenue figures but the amount they do earn from duty-free is even more important to them. Last year, duty-free sales produced £33.6 million revenue for Britannia Airways out of total revenue of £564.3 million, but that sum contributed significantly to the airline's profits.

"The profits generated by duty-free sales benefit our passengers by allowing the airline to keep down the costs of a package holiday," Stuart Brooks, a Britannia spokesman, says.

"Over the past couple of years, these sales have become even more important because of increased competition in the leisure market which is obviously hugely price-sensitive."



Gareth Cooper, Stena Sealink's managing director: "A lot of traffic is generated by duty-free goods"

PAUL AMOS

Robert Lewis, cabin services manager of Monarch Airlines, agrees that duty-free sales are an important source of revenue, especially with profits being squeezed further by the Government's introduction of a departure tax which most travel operators are trying to absorb.

He says, however, that duty-free sales are an important customer requirement as well as a source of profit. He notes that while alcohol and tobacco sales continue at a steady level "people are more keen on luxury goods such as perfume and aftershave than they were ten or 15 years ago".

Britain's airports earn the biggest income from duty-free sales. BAA reported recently that revenue from retailing activities at its seven airports in the 1993/4 financial year had, for the first time, exceeded those from runway operations and had become the biggest source of revenue for the group. Out of a total income of £1,098 million, retailing produced £468 million, £280 million of that from duty and tax-free sales.

"Our passengers are telling us that shopping and retail facilities are high on their list of priorities and that retail facilities attract traffic by positively influencing a passenger's choice of airport or airline," Barry Gibson, BAA group retail director, says.

"The Nineties consumer is now more demanding and issues such as convenience, choice, quality, service and value for money are more important than ever before. People's lifestyles today mean that they place a high value on their time and are tending to spend less time on shopping. Given this situation, airports have a clear advantage and by providing a wide range of shops and services for customers in a location that is convenient to them, we can go a long way towards meeting their needs."

Income from duty-free shopping is equally important to regional airports. At Birmingham and Newcastle, for example, duty-free income represents 40 per cent of pre-tax profits, compared with an average for European airports of 15 per cent.

Independent research calculates that if the duty-free concession was ended, landing charges throughout the EC would have to increase by an average of 14 per cent if applied evenly to all operators, and by a frightening 31 per cent if limited to flights within the Community.

Even the operators of Le Shuttle, which begins fare-paying services today, recognise the importance of duty-free shopping. For, while Eurotunnel, which runs the Channel Tunnel, is arguing in the courts for the abolition of duty-free, Le Shuttle has opened sizable duty-free shops in its Folkestone and Calais terminals and has appointed Aer Rianta International, the Shannon-based airport management company, to run them.

Le Shuttle asked designers to create "a quiet, calming and spacious feel" to encourage travellers to browse in comfort and buy in bulk. It forecasts that earnings from ancillary business in its first year of operation will reach £33 million and most of that will come from duty-free sales. By 1996, the figure is expected to reach £52 million. For yet another company, duty-free sales could make the difference between profit and loss.

Duty-free was devised after the imposition of excise duty in 1644

Top of the shops

Introduced in the days when sailing ships provided the only means of long-distance travel, duty-free shopping has become an important international industry with conglomerates, even nations, vying with each other to offer passengers the best bargains and greatest variety of goods. *Tony Dawe writes.*

The duty-free concept was devised by the British after the imposition of excise duty in 1644 to allow sailors and travellers to stock up on food and drink for long voyages. Its commercial development began only in the 1950s, thanks to the foresight of Brendan O'Regan, an Irish caterer who set up a tax-free shop at Shannon airport in the west of Ireland.

Initially, his range of goods amounted to little more than Irish lace, porcelain souvenirs and rosary beads but, as more and more transatlantic flights stopped at Shannon to refuel, his shop expanded. In 1974 it was sold to Aer Rianta, which runs Ireland's main airports, and now claims to match Harrods store in London and Bloomingdales in New York for variety and style.

The company operates additional duty-free outlets in Russia, the Middle East and Pakistan, and earns half its revenue from the business. At the start of this year, it was awarded the contract to run the shops at the Channel Tunnel terminals at Folkestone and Calais.

Dr O'Regan's enterprise was copied by other airport operators and, as mass travel developed, duty-free items were recognised as a vital source of income by airlines and ferry operators. Airports remain the biggest earners, with Honolulu topping the list with £275 million last year. BAA earned about £280 million from its duty and tax-free shops at London and Scottish airports.



The coveted Best Airport Shopping in the World award has gone this year, however, to Dubai, which expects to earn £90 million from its Government-run complex. Chosen by a panel including Richard Branson, Sir Terence Conran and Sir David Frost, the shops are open 24 hours a day and are at their busiest between 10pm and 2am.

"Fortunately, Dubai international airport is not located in a densely populated area and not restricted by international laws which reduce the number of night-time flights," Mohi-Din Binhendi, director general of Dubai's civil aviation department, says. "As a result, we have a 24-hour passenger flow-through and we operate to meet its demands."

Gold is the biggest-selling duty-free item, either in jewellery or ingots, and amounts to 18 per cent of revenue. Colm McLoughlin, Dubai Duty Free's general manager, says that tobacco, liquor and perfumes are also popular. "Luxury goods, food items and electronic goods, ranging from personal computers to the latest hi-fi systems, are also top of the shopping lists of many international bargain hunters. We stock up to 60,000 products at any given time, most of which are sourced locally."

Presented by Courvoisier's *Book of the Best*, the award recognises Dubai's place among the world's top duty-free outlets, including Amsterdam, Hong Kong and Singapore. Schiphol Airport won the "World's Best Duty-Free" awards from business travel magazines in Britain, Germany and America last year and its "range of shops and goods and duty-free prices" helped to earn it in September a "most favoured airport" award organised by *Business Traveller Asia-Pacific*.

"Our range of more than 120,000 products, keen pricing and high levels of service are the major factors influencing frequent travellers to vote for us," Johan van Streun, the Dutch airport's head of concessions, says.

"These awards do not mean we will rest on our laurels: they only strengthen our resolve to remain the best." Duty-free shops around the world will be eager to challenge him as the multibillion-pound business moves into a new year.



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Stena Sealink LINE

STENA LINE – THE WORLD'S LEADING FERRY COMPANY

The top three tour operators now control more than 65 per cent of the package holiday market. Will this create higher prices?

Small agencies being pushed out



The Travel Business

HARVEY ELLIOTT

The takeover of Caledonian Airways by the fast-growing Inspirations Group is part of a developing trend which has profound implications for all package holidaymakers.

On the face of it there is no reason why a company specialising in tour operations should not buy an airline to ensure that its customers get a seamless service from the moment they walk into their travel agency to the moment they open their hotel door.

The problem is that so many of the big holiday groups have done it that there are now very few genuinely independent airlines left. Excalibur Airways proudly boasts that it is now the "only fully independent British holiday airline". At least seven other independents have disappeared since 1990.

Today Thomson owns Britannia, Airtours has Airtours International, First Choice owns Air 2000, Cosmos and Avro are part of the same group as Monarch Air UK Leisure is part of the Viking/Unijet conglomerate and now Inspirations has Caledonian.

The idea is to ensure that people who choose a particular holiday from a tour operator's brochure are guaranteed a flight on the company's airline and the airline in turn has a constant supply of passengers from its tour partner.

The big groups have now gone further by buying travel agencies throughout Britain. So Thomson has Lunn Poly, Airtours has Going Places, Thomas Cook has a stake in First Choice, and now Inspirations has tied itself closely with A.T. Mays as well as snapping up individual shops as they come on the market.

All this consolidation — or vertical integration — has meant that the top three companies control well over 65 per cent the total package holiday market and the ten biggest tour operators account for 85 per cent of the 14 million package holidays which are sold each year.

There are, however, almost 1,000 other licenced tour operators in Britain, many small specialist organisations. They are largely dependent on their big competitors and their airlines for getting passengers to and from resorts.

When buying seats on charter flights, small tour operators have to pay much more than their big competitors. They are unable to use the purchasing power which size brings with it to force through a bigger discount and they have to fly when the market leader decides it wants to go.

Vertically integrated companies gain the advantage of spreading losses so that whenever one sector is under pressure, the others can take the strain. If travel agencies are in a price war, the tour operating company in the group can keep its prices — and therefore the group's profits — at a healthy level. Equally, if tour operators are discounting strongly, the airlines can make up the difference.

The holidaymaker who prefers to use a small tour operator, however, is caught financially each time. If the big chains are offering virtually the same holiday as the independent at a much lower price, it is hard to see why the customer should pay the extra yet obtain no clear benefit. The small company is faced with the choice of either matching the big boys and losing money or selling at a higher price and losing custom.

Until recently, the independent traveller who perhaps did not like being part of the herd, but would not want to pay full scheduled airline rates, at least had the opportunity of flying with an airline which was not run and controlled by a partner tour operator. Caledonian, although wholly owned by British Airways, remained one of those independent airlines. Now it is to be part of the Inspirations group. There will, therefore, be fewer seats left for the small tour operator to buy.

At the same time it is planned to dispose of some of Caledonian's current fleet of larger aircraft and replace them with smaller jets — again leading to fewer airline seats being available on the open market. When supply falls and demand rises only one thing happens — the price goes up.

Perhaps fewer independent travel companies and rising prices for holidays is the inevitable outcome of the trend towards vertical integration. Perhaps, too, this is only the early signs of an impending consolidation of the entire industry.

It may not be a bad thing. On the other hand Britain may be becoming more like France and Germany where there is very little competition and far higher prices. We should be aware of what is happening and demand more openness about who owns whom.

Discounts on package holiday deals often mean quality has been shaved to the bone, says **Marianne Curphey**

Beware the cheap holiday

Customers tempted by offers of discounted holidays from high street travel agents *should look carefully at the* real cost of their holiday before committing themselves.

The price reductions — cutting summer 1995 holiday prices by up to 12 per cent, offer an incentive to book early. However, they often require purchase of a travel agents' own holiday insurance, which can yield the agent up to 40 per cent commission.

This is the first year in which discounts have been offered in the run-up to Christmas, a time of slow sales. The strongest selling period is traditionally from Boxing Day onwards. Peter Shanks, commercial director of Thomas Cook, admitted that he did not expect "strong sales" until December 27.

Some in the trade give a warning that the quality of the British package holiday is suffering because companies are squeezed so hard they do not have sufficient margins to reinvest in their product.

Sue Ockwell of the Association of Independent Tour Operators, said: "Every time operators renegotiate prices with hoteliers abroad, quality is shaved to the bone. The mass holiday market that buys on price does not think about the little extras they are losing out on."

Mr Shanks says: "Most of the improvements in the overseas package holiday market — for example upgrading Greek and Spanish resorts — have been prompted by national governments, encouraged or supported by UK tour operators."

Alasdair McNee, leisure analyst with Yamaichi International, predicts the post-Christmas booking period will be "tough" but says smaller companies have been quietly exploiting the war between the three biggest operators.

He says: "While Thomson, Airtours and First Choice (formerly Owners Abroad) — who all have commercial links with travel agents and airlines — are at each other's throats, the little companies are picking up the crumbs."

Major retailers admit that the only way for them to make discounting viable is to share the cost with their associated operators and make travel insurance compulsory.

Thomson, the leading tour operator, has links with Lunn Poly and Britannia Airways; Going Places is owned by Airtours, the second-largest tour operator; and Thomas Cook has a 21 per cent stake in First Choice (formerly Owners Abroad).

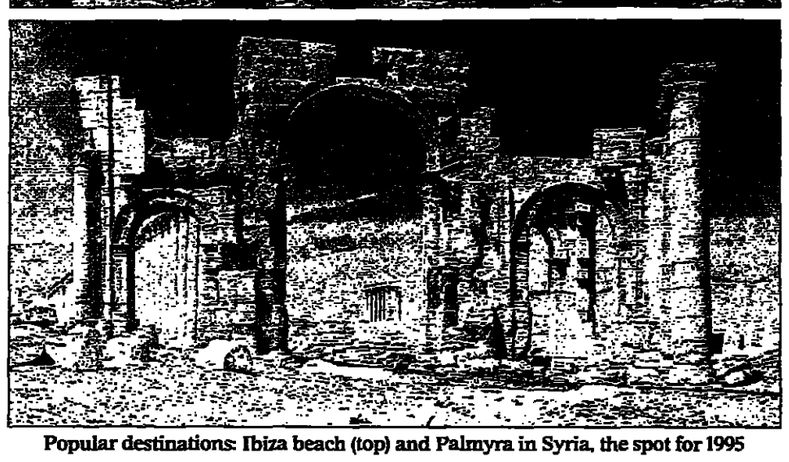
Though there have been no moves so far, post-Christmas discounting might also involve a repeat of August's discrimination, when Lunn Poly offered discounts on all operators' holidays but Going Places and Thomas Cook offered smaller discounts on Thomson holidays. Thomas Cook expects a "surge of bookings" immediately after Christmas, and expects 2.5 million people to book their holidays in January as a result of the discount offers.

Mr Shanks predicts that the top destinations next year will be: the Balearic Islands, the Greek Islands, the Canary Islands, mainland Spain, and Cyprus. Turkey will also be popular and there will be "a massive return" in the numbers going to Florida.

Meanwhile, the ancient desert city of Palmyra in Syria could be the surprise hit with intrepid travellers in 1995, according to Control Risks Group (CRG), the London-based international political and security consultants.

Michael Barron, Middle East analyst, forecasts that travel to Syria and Lebanon would be more attractive and safer next year than for a number of years because of the prospect of a lifting of trade bans with Israel and the possibility of peace treaties between Israel, Syria and Lebanon.





Popular destinations: Ibiza beach (top) and Palmyra in Syria, the spot for 1995

Where to go for the snow

The Alps are covered in snow, but it is too little too late for some resorts

A WHITE Christmas is guaranteed. After weeks of high and dry weather accentuated by cries of despair from skiers and shopkeepers alike, the Alps are covered in snow. Snow fell everywhere early this week. But the bad news is that the cover is likely to be too little too late.

Verbier inaugurates its innovative Funitel 2,000 person an hour gondola system today, happy that invited VIPs will be dazzled by a snowscape at mid station where brown was the predominant shade only a week ago. Glacier resorts such as Verbier, Tignes, Zermatt and Austria's eight winter/summer skiing areas have had difficulty coping with early season skiers, trying to satisfy them in the very limited terrain open for skiing.

Holiday hordes will exacerbate the problem. The new snow does not have a solid base in most resorts. Until this week, no major resort has been able to boast good skiing all the way down to village level. Although fluffy and powdery on the surface, the snowpack has no bottom in many areas. This means skis go right through to the grass or rock below.

Skiers can expect good skiing and powder snow above 3,000 metres in Zermatt, Argentière, Saas Fee, Tignes and Verbier. Lower level resorts, especially in Austria and Italy will not have all pistes open. Even Courcheval in the heart of the Trois Vallees, had only 15 of its 95 pistes open early this week as the snow was falling.

Italy's most chic resort, Cortina d'Ampezzo, is typical of the southern Alps. No more than 20cm of snow covers the rocks at 2,000 metres. But some snow is on the ground — enough for a snowball fight.

DOUG SAGER



Chic and cheerful: good conditions at Zermatt

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New Falklands flights on the wild side

The Falkland Islands, famed for their wildlife, sea trout fishing, wool and battlefields, will for the first time be plugged into commercial international air routes under ambitious plans by a Chilean airline carrier.

The tourist board for the islands, home to many species of birds, including penguins and albatrosses, and marine mammals, including elephant seals and sea lions, has been setting up small numbers of offshore lodges and self-catering facilities to become a player in the specialist wildlife holiday market. Domestic air sevices have been developed to ferry holidaymakers from Stanley, the capital, to other parts of the main two islands and the thousands of unspoilt offshore ones.

But this tourism push is being hampered by the lack of sufficient airline connections into Stanley airport and to Mount Pleasant, a military airstrip built after the Falklands War, an hour's drive from the capital. Despite studies by airlines, the only flights from Britain are still those by the RAF, from Brize Norton in Oxfordshire.

The military have done their best to create a veneer of a commercial service but the quality remains a compromise. A sense of adventure and humour needs to be packed along with towels and toothpaste. Flights, which are by a fleet of old Tristars, can suffer delays, need to refuel at Ascension Island and can be disrupted for military purposes. Home comforts on the 8,000-mile, 18-hour trip can be sparse. The bar service between Britain and Ascension is sometimes absent and the original British Airways' in-flight film equipment has been ripped out.



Mike Summers, chairman of the Falkland Islands Tourist Board in Stanley, says: "In the long term the RAF will probably be replaced by a contractor, but there is no indication of when." But the new airlink plan, by the independent carrier Aero Vias DAP, could radically change the future of tourism. The company has, for around five years, operated a 10 to 12-seater Twin Otter aircraft from Punta Arenas to the Falklands, weekly in summer and fortnightly in winter, bringing business executives and some visitors.

Now it is in discussions with British Aerospace to lease a BAe 146 jet able to carry cargo and up to 100 passengers. A delegation from the British plane makers has recently visited the Falklands. The plan is to deliver the aircraft to the airline in Punta Arenas in August 1995 with flights commencing the following month. Mr Summers says the jet would provide a rapid service through to Santiago for the first time.

"Instead of being a two-day trip to Santiago, it would be about five hours. It also takes you directly into the international flight network," he says. Scores of South American, North American and European airways, including British Airways, Lufthansa and SAS, fly in there. The link could boost tourism towards the Falkland Islands' target of 500 visitors a year, up from around 160 this year.

Whether tourism will grow beyond the 500 mark remains to be seen. It is feared that greater numbers could be detrimental to the wildlife. A greater investment in roads, guides, and hotels also would be needed.

NICK NUTTALL

Short-term passports abolished

THE one-year British Visitor's Passport and the British Excursion Document, used for short trips to the Continent, are to be withdrawn, Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, has announced.

The disclosure, in a Commons written reply, means that the only way to travel abroad from January 1, 1996 will be with a standard ten-year passport, costing £18.

The £12 British Visitor's Passport, available from post offices and used by two million holidaymakers a year, ceases from January 1, 1996.

The British Excursion Document for short journeys to France and "no-passport trips" to Belgium and Holland will be withdrawn from March 1 next year after a Passport Agency review.

The UK Passport Agency is also advising anyone travelling to Spain after October 1995 to apply for a ten-year passport now if they do not already have one. The British Visitor's Passport, which is valid for one year, will not be accepted by Spain from October 1, 1995. British visitors to mainland Spain and the Balearic and Canary Islands must hold a full British passport from that date.

This is the Passport Agency's quietest time, and applications now should take nine days. However, the agency says that people should allow 20 working days between January and June, and 15 working days between September and December.

Application forms are available from main post offices, regional passport offices and some travel agents.

MARIANNE CURPHEY

Ferries hit back in battle with Chunnel

ANOTHER ferry company is looking for new routes to France to combat competition from the Channel Tunnel.

Christian Michielini, chairman of Brittany Ferries, is negotiating with port officials in Bayonne, close to Biarritz, in the southwest corner of France. The company hopes to start a service in the spring of 1996, running a 20-hour crossing once a week, probably out of Plymouth.

The development follows a year-long feasibility study by P&O European Ferries into a new route between Portsmouth and Bordeaux. Both companies are looking for suitable ships.

Le Shuttle started service this week and with Eurotunnel claiming it will capture up to 50 per cent of the cross-Channel market within five years — 13 million passengers this year and 2.25 million cars — the ferry companies are looking to increase their routes.

Stena Sealink and P&O are particularly at risk. P&O operates 18 routes out of Britain, of which Dover-Calais accounts for 40 per cent of revenue. It will sell 5.25 million return crossings on that route alone this year. But with P&O and Stena Sealink looking to western Channel routes for expansion, Brittany Ferries is acting to protect its market.

The French company, which carried 1.5 million return passengers this year, has sailings out of Poole, Portsmouth and Plymouth to four ports in Normandy and Brittany, and a route to Santander in northern Spain. "We are carrying out an in-depth study on Bayonne," David Longden, sales and marketing director, says. "It would complement Santander and be perfect for the Pyrenees and the South of France.

"It is something we have been thinking about and looking at for some time in the light of P&O going on about Bordeaux. Much of the study now is looking at port facilities."

STEVE KEENAN

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Frenchman crosses Southern Ocean with 400 miles to spare over rivals

Exhausted Auguin reaches Sydney after record run

By Barry Pickthall

CHRISTOPHE AUGUIN, the solo yachtsman from France, finally reached Sydney yesterday morning to win the second leg of the BOC Challenge round-the-world race in record time, despite spending the previous two days virtually becalmed off the Australian coast.

Having completed the 7,000-mile voyage across the Southern Ocean from Cape Town just inside 25 days — and more than a day ahead of the previous record set by John Martin four years ago — Auguin, 35, said: "The last four days were the worst part of the journey. I was working all the time trying to coax any speed out of my boat. Now, I'm exhausted."

Earlier in the day, his 60-foot yacht, *Sceta Calberson*, was within 30 miles of the finish but being carried backwards by the strong current sweeping southwards. "The wind is zero. My speed is minus two knots. My estimated time of arrival is next year," Auguin told race officials waiting for him to hove into sight outside Sydney Heads.

It has been a race of considerable contrasts. Earlier in the leg, most competitors experienced more wind than they could cope with. Isabelle Autissier, the first-leg winner from France, and Neal Petersen, the South African class 2 entry, paid the greatest price — they were dismasted. Steve Pettengill, of the United States, and J.J. Provoyeur, another South African, suffered broken rigging and booms, and another competitor lost his rudder.

"I have never seen such waves and such seas. Some were 15-30 metres high. I have a big boat, but the ocean treated it as if it were very small." Auguin recalled yesterday after spraying champagne over the waiting crowd.

Surprisingly, considering the litany of damage experienced within a fleet now stretched more than 3,000 miles back across the Indian Ocean, Auguin experienced few problems during the race, the only noticeable damage being a shredded genoa which ripped apart just three days out from Cape Town.

The Frenchman, who won this race overall four years ago, chalked up a week-long string of daily runs each in excess of 300 miles during the latter part of the voyage, including one 24-hour burst of 350.9 miles — a new monohull solo record.

With his closest rival, fellow Frenchman Jean Luc van den Heede, still more than 400 miles away from Sydney, Auguin now leads the race overall, but knows that the slightest slip could still cost him dearly. After finishing third on the first leg from Charleston, he had thought that Autissier's week-long lead would prove insurmountable. But, within a week of leaving Cape Town, the wheel of fortune had swung full circle, casting Autissier adrift in mid-ocean and thrusting Auguin into the overall lead.

Meanwhile, some 700 miles astern, a close battle has developed for line honours within the 50-foot class 2 fleet. Like Auguin, David Adams, of Australia, who has led his division from the outset, has become becalmed and seen his once-commanding 200-mile lead over Giovanni Soldini, of Italy, evaporate.

Yesterday afternoon, as the winds returned once more, just one mile separated the two rivals as they raced neck-and-neck for the finish at a speed of 12 knots. Autissier, who limped under jury rig to the French Kerguelen Islands to step a second-hand cruising rig on her yacht, *Ecureuil Poitou Charentes*, was also clocking up the miles again, reeling off a 229-mile run yesterday. However, with some 2,700 miles still to cover, the former race leader does not expect to reach Sydney until early next month.


MARK BAKER

Auguin celebrates victory in the second leg of the round-the-world race yesterday

Ville de Paris sustains damage in collision

TWO America's Cup yachts practising pre-start manoeuvres collided on Monday, punching a hole in one of them. The French yacht, *Ville de Paris*, was hit by PACT 95's *Spirit of Unum*, opening a 4ft by 2½ft hole in the American yacht. "We were mostly concerned that the boat would sink," a spokeswoman for *Ville de Paris* said. PACT 95 took full responsibility for the accident.

Monday was the last day of sailing for *Spirit of Unum*, which will be replaced this week by *Young America*. But *Ville de Paris*, built for the 1992 America's Cup, sustained little damage. "I think people are aggressive, knowing they are sailing old boats, just to see how tightly they can manoeuvre these boats," Tom Stark, of PACT 95, said.

France America, the owner of *Ville de Paris*, is no stranger to damaged boats. The first of its two new yachts, *France 2*-3, was dropped on its keel two weeks ago, sustaining extensive damage. Repairs on that yacht are expected to be completed this week and the boat is scheduled to resume sailing on Tuesday. The America's Cup trials start next month, leading up to the finals in May.

Pipe and Lower each fined £750 for breach of non-triers' rule

By Julian Muscat

THE Jockey Club ruled yesterday that Martin Pipe, the record-breaking National Hunt trainer, failed to ensure that one of his horses, Encore Un Peu, made sufficient effort to achieve the best possible placing when finishing second in a race at Warwick last month.

After a two-hour hearing in London yesterday, Pipe and Jonothan Lower, who rode the horse, were each fined £750 by the Club's disciplinary committee after they were adjudged to be in breach of Rule 151, which relates to non-triers. Having protested his innocence in the days before the hearing, Pipe left the Jockey Club's offices saying only that he was "very disappointed" by the outcome of the inquiry. It is the first time he has been disciplined for such an offence.

The sentence brings to a close a two-month period of controversy surrounding Encore Un Peu, a French-bred seven-year-old who initially caught the attention of the racecourse stewards at Stratford on October 27. Ridden, on that occasion, by Richard Dunwoody, Encore Un Peu made steady progress from the back of the field of 16 to finish fifth. The stewards accepted Dunwoody's explanation that the horse failed to recover after he had been hampered by a faller at the first hurdle.

Sublime Fellow was a convincing winner of the second division of the Tanners Manzanilla National Novices Hurdle at Ludlow yesterday. In the first division of the race, John Ryan was banned for two days (December 30-31) for misuse of the whip after winning on the 33-1 shot, Tir Na Nog.

Four days later, Encore Un Peu, whose odds at Stratford drifted from 2-1 to 3-1, was backed from 6-1 into 9-4 at Exeter before handsomely landing the gamble in Lower's hands. But it was his Warwick running two weeks later that landed connections in trouble. Opposed in the market from 6-4 to 15-8, Encore Un Peu appeared tenderly handled by Lower before failing to master Fourth In Line. The failure of the Warwick stewards to announce an official inquiry prompted the Jockey Club's intervention.

"The stewards have decided that the horse wasn't given a proper run," David Pipe, the Jockey Club's director of public affairs, said of the inquiry behind closed doors yesterday. The disciplinary committee, having established Lower's failure to achieve the best possible placing on Encore Un Peu, were left with no option but to condemn the horse's trainer when Pipe expressed himself satisfied with Lower's handling of the horse.

Pipe produced evidence that Encore Un Peu was a far from straightforward animal. The gelding has worn a net muzzle over his mouth on his last four starts, but the three-man disciplinary committee were not persuaded by Pipe's case. That Encore Un Peu was well backed before his easy victory at Exeter suggests he is far from unreliable, as he again demonstrated when winning over fences at Newton Abbot last week.

The failure of the Warwick stewards to inquire into Encore Un Peu's performance reflects poorly on them. It was at the same venue in January that they deemed Adrian Maguire to have ridden within the strict whip instructions when partnering Ramstar, trained by David Nicholson, to a narrow defeat by Castle Diamond. Their findings were not shared by the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee, which convened a fresh inquiry and suspended Maguire for eight days.

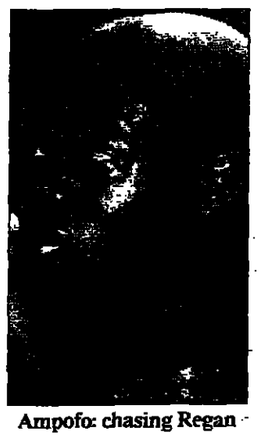
As for Pipe, four times the champion trainer, he became the eighth among his profession to fall foul of the non-triers' rule in the last 12 months. Like him, the seven previous miscreants were all fined, although the Jockey Club has been more severe in past judgments.

The Jockey Club recently warned that it was to crack down on non-triers, which are the bane of punters' lives. Although it has disciplined 16 individuals inside 12 months, Pipe is the first high-profile professional to be brought to account.

Jodami's planned workout in advance of his as-yet unspecified outing over the Christmas period was put back 24 hours yesterday. Freezing temperatures in Yorkshire meant that Peter Beaumont, who trains the 1993 Gold Cup winner, was unable to use his gallops. Beaumont has three options for Jodami and does not intend to finalise running plans until the end of the week.


Pipe: brought to account

Ampofo keen to add European title to his collection


Ampofo: chasing Regan

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

FRANCIS AMPOFO, who became a double champion by adding the Commonwealth flyweight title to his British championship on Tuesday, now has his sights on a third belt. He intends to challenge Robbie Regan, of Wales, the European champion and his arch-rival. The score between the two stands at 1-1.

Barry Hearn, Ampofo's manager, expects his man to be nominated before long as Regan's challenger. Hearn also wants a second world title bout with Jake Matlala, of South Africa.

Following Ampofo's second-round victory over Daren Fifield, the Commonwealth champion from Oxford, at York Hall, Hearn said: "If Matlala beats Alberto Gimenez on January 28, I am going to take Francis to South Africa to give him another crack at the world title. If not, maybe Regan wants to get brave.

"We are quite happy to go to Wales if the money is right. But after the way Ampofo stopped Fifeld, who as we know is a good fighter, I don't suppose Frank Warren [Regan's promoter] will be jumping at the opportunity."

Ampofo was stopped in nine rounds by Matlala last June, but Hearn claims that because of a lay-off Ampofo was not focused on the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) champion.

Even though Fifeld did not land a solid punch on Ampofo, the champion will have to have a head scan, costing £900, in three weeks' time. Because of some doubts about a brain scan in a medical before the Matlala bout, Ampofo's health is monitored before and after contests. "Francis must be the healthiest, cleanest fighter in Britain and the most medically correct: but we are happy to be safe," Hearn said.

Less than a fortnight after Chris Eubank outscored him emphatically in a WBO championship bout, Henry Wharton, of York, has been installed as the next official challenger to Frederic Seillier, of France, the European champion. Victory would move Wharton back towards the premier contenders for a version of the title.

Seillier is No 1 in the World Boxing Council (WBC) rankings and either he, or the Gerald McClellan, of the United States, will be the next opponent for Nigel Benn, the WBC champion, at the London Arena on February 25.

It depends on whether McClellan gives up the WBC middleweight title, a career move which is widely expected as he is reckoned to be battling with the weight limit in that division — and, in any case, the bigger money is being earned by the super-middleweights.

In that event, the Detroit boxer would be moved to No 1 in the WBC lists and he would get the world title shot before Seillier, but Frank Warren, Benn's promoter, is still awaiting final confirmation of the next man to face the champion in his seventh defence.

Seillier held on to his European title earlier this month by drawing with a Eubank victim, Graciano Rocchigiani, of Germany, in Berlin, but looked unlucky only to get a share of the verdict.

With the European Boxing Union giving promoters a deadline of March 13 to complete private negotiations, the Seillier-Wharton bout would probably not go ahead until the spring.

China states opposition to drug use

CHINA said yesterday that its suspension of 11 athletes found to have used illegal performance-enhancing drugs demonstrated its determined opposition to the use of such substances in sport.

"Absolute opposition to the use of performance-enhancing drugs is the resolute position of China's sports world," the official *China Sports Daily* said in a front-page commentary yesterday. Chinese officials have denied international allegations of systematic drug use.

On Tuesday, China announced the suspension of 11 competitors, including seven swimmers, for up to four years after they tested positive for banned drugs at the Asian Games in Hiroshima in October. The Olympic Council of Asia stripped the 11 of their medals after their urine samples showed traces of dehydrotestosterone, an anabolic steroid.

"This news aroused top-level attention in the Chinese Olympic Committee," the newspaper said. "Along with the sincere inquiry and strict handling, all kinds of effective measures are being implemented to deepen the unswerving struggle against the use of performance-enhancing drugs."

Those banned included Yang Aihua and Lu Bin, both swimming world champions. As well as the seven swimmers, a hurdler, two canoeists and a cyclist were also caught.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Atlanta 115 Milwaukee 97; Charlotte 99 Indiana 95; Utah 91 Philadelphia 88; New Jersey 85 New York 83; Orlando 108 Portland 104; Seattle 110 LA Clippers 79; Dallas 110 Golden State 107; LA Lakers 108 Minnesota 95; Sacramento 105 Washington 102.

BOXING

BETHNAL GREEN: British and Commonwealth flyweight championship (12 rds): Francis Ampofo (Bethnal Green) bt Daren Fifield (Oxford), rsc 2nd rnd. Bantam (6 rnds): Michael Aldis (Crawley) bt Peter Buckley (Birmingham), pts. Light-welter (6rds): George Smith (Basildon) bt Steve Bolt (Plymouth), rsc 2nd rnd Middle (6 rnds): Sven Harner (Margate) ko Tony Valiior (Stratford), 4th rnd. Super-middle (6 rnds): Mark Delaney (West Ham) bt Martin Jolley (Alfreton), rsc 4th rnd Cruiser (8 rnds): Terry Dunstan (Hackney) bt Trevor Small (Birmingham), ref 4th rnd. Heavy (6 rnds): Pat Passley (Edmonton) bt Michael Holden (Manchester), ref 3rd rnd.

CRICKET

PAARL, South Africa: Tour match (first day of three): Boland 83 and 31-2; New Zealanders 86 (M Ersamus 6-22).

FOOTBALL

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Wimbledon 3 Bristol Rovers 1.

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Torino 0 AC Milan 0.

Tuesday's late results

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Halifax 1 Runcorn 0; Northwich 3 Kidderminster 4, Stalybridge 0 Gateshead 1

BOB LORD TROPHY: Quarter-final: Kettering 2 Woking 1

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Swindon 2 Millwall 1; Norwich 2 Charlton 2. League Cup: Plymouth 2 Bournemouth 2.

FA PREMIER LEAGUE TROPHY: Under-16: Oxford 2 Hampshire 2.

UNIBOND NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: President's Cup: First round: Spennymoor 3 Guiseley 1; Frickley 1 Boston 2

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Gloucester 3 Grasley 3. Dr Martens Cup: Second round replay: Weymouth 2 Havant 1. Third round: Cheltenham 1 Dorchester 1. Third round replay: Hastings 3 Margate 1.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES CUP: Third round, first Leg: Bangor City 1 Llansantffraid 1.

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Fourth round replays: Wrexham 4 Connah's Quay 0; Caersws 1 Porthmadog 2. Fifth round draw: Bangor City v Wrexham; Swansea v Porthmadog; Merthyr Tydfil v Ton Pentre; Barry Town or Llanduduno v Ebbw Vale or Cardiff or Rhyl. *Ties to be played February 11.*

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Handon 2 Aylesbury 1. Third division: Camberley 1 Flackwell Heath 0. Carlsberg Cup: Second round: Chertsey 2 Aldershot 0, Walton and Hersham 5 Abingdon Town 4 (aet).

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bristol Manor Farm 2 Taunton 1.

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Langford 0 Arlesey 4.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Burscough 3 Chadderton 1.

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Cornard Utd 1 Diss Town 2, Newmarket Town 0 Haverhill Rovers 1.

OTHER MATCH: Dundee Utd 0 Partizan Belgrade 1.

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Derby 2 West Bromwich Albion 1; Leeds 0 Blackburn 0; Liverpool 1 Notts County 0. Second division: Bradford 1 Leicester City 2; Grimsby 0 Oldham 2: Sheffield Wednesday 4 Birmingham 2

FA YOUTH CUP: Third round: Coventry City 2 Middlesbrough 2; Sunderland 0 Doncaster Rovers 0; Tottenham Hotspur 4 Wolverhampton Wanderers 2; Wimbledon 4 Ipswich 0; Sheffield United 1 York City 0.

HOCKEY

INDOOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS: Finals draw: Pool A: Old Loughtonians, Hull, East Grinstead. Pool B: Barford Tigers, Bearpark, St Albans. *To be played at Crystal Palace on January 20.*

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Peacehaven and Telscombe v East Grinstead.

FA YOUTH CUP: Second round replays: Walsall v Manchester City; Swindon v Portsmouth.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier League: Under-16 Trophy: Dorset v Hampshire (at Bournemouth Sports Club, 2.15); Inner London v Kent D Area (at Walthamstow, 1.0).

RUGBY UNION

Heineken League

First division

Cardiff v Pontypridd (7.15) .. ..

Club match

Nuneaton v Cheltenham (7.15) .. ..

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: London v Manchester (8.0).

TENNIS: Women's LTA Christmas tournament (Queen's Club).

ICE HOCKEY

MOSCOW: Izvestia Cup: Final: Russia 1 Czech Republic 0 Play-off for fifth place: Norway 2 Italy 0.

RUGBY LEAGUE

REGAL TROPHY: Third round: Dewsbury 2 Castleford 30 Third round replay: St Helens 50 Batley 22.

RUGBY UNION

PILKINGTON SHIELD: Sixth round draw: South: Ilford Wanderers v Beaconsfield; Kingsbridge v Ventnor; St Albans v Whitstable; Tredworth v Wisbech North: Bromyard v North Shields, Rushden and Higham v Buckingham, Wallasey v Queens: Witney v Huddersfield YMCA. Ties to be played on January 28

SKIING

LECH, Austria: World Cup: Men: Slalom (62 gates first leg, 60 gates second leg): 1, A Tomba (It) 1min 43.57sec (52.45sec, 51.12); 2, T Sykora (Austria) 1.43.59 (52.43, 51.16); 3, M Trescher (Austria) 1:44.34 (52.79, 51.55); 4, T Fogdoe (Swe) 1.44.52 (52.72, 51.80); 5, O-C Furuseth (Nor) 1:44.81 (53.21, 51.60); 6, J Kosir (Slovenia) 1:44.98 (52.48, 52.49). World Cup positions: Slalom: 1, Tomba 400pts; 2, Trscher 250; 3, Sykora 216; 4, Fogdoe 190. Overall: 1, Tombs 450; 2, M von Grunsigen (Switz) 294; 3, K-A Aamodt (Nor) 262. 4, Trscher 250.

ALTA BADIA, Italy: World Cup: Women: Giant slalom: 1, S Panzanini (It) 2min 21.03sec (1.09.76, 1:11.27); 2, A Wachter (Austria) 2:21.50 (1.09.75, 1.11.75), 3, D Compagnoni (It) 2:22.14 (1 10.60, 1:11.54); 4, M Ertl (Austria), 2:22.79 (1.11.33, 1.11.46); 5, E Twardokens (US) 2:22.86 (1.10.11, 1:12.75), 6, H Zeller-Baehler (Switz) 2:22.95 (1.11.27, 1:11.68). World Cup positions: Giant slalom: 1, Zeller-Baehler 240pts; 2, Panzanini 212; 3, Schneider 169; 4, M Kjoarstad (Nor) 131. Overall: 1, Zeller-Baehler 485pts; 2, V Schneider (Switz) 386; 3, K Seizinger (Ger) 361; 4, H Lindh (US) 304.

TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Women's tournament: Second round: L Austin (Sussex) bt I Wyatt (Oxfordshire) 2-6, 6-4, 6-2; A Tordoff (Kent) bt J Dewson (Sussex) 6-4, 7-5. Quarter-finals: S Bentley (Surrey) bt F Heam (Middlesex) 6-2, 6-1; M Mair (Scot) bt L Ogan (Warwicks) 6-3, 6-3; Austin bt K Warne-Holland (Cheshire) 5-7, 6-4, 7-6. K Hand (Berks) bt Tordoff 7-5 6-2.

POOLS DIVIDENDS

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance: 24pts £178,413.20, 23½pts £2,436.65, 23pts £1,158.15, 22½pts £101.55, 22pts £39.65, 21½pts £15.40, 21pts £3.15 Four draws: £10.35. Ten homes (paid on nine homes): £212.00. Five aways: £1,745.90.

VERNONS: Treble chance: 24pts £55,139 55, 23½ £411.15, 23 £154.55, 22½ £17.30, 22 £6.35, 21½ £2.90 Ten homes (paid on nine homes) £275.55. Five aways: £412.25.

ZETTERS: Treble chance: 24pts £3,438, 23½ £51.20, 23 £28 10, 22½ £2.05, 22 £1.00. Four draws: £8.40 Four homes: £453 30. Four aways: £59 60. Lucky numbers: 21, 1, 28, 38, 15, 3.

YACHTING

BOC CHALLENGE: Solo Round the World Race: Second leg (Cape Town to Sydney): Class 1: 1, Sceta Calberson (C Auguin, Fr) 24days 23hr 40min. Other positions (at 14.00 GMT yesterday, with miles to Sydney). 2, Vendée Enterprises (J van den Heede, Fr) 300 (estimate); 3, Coyote (D Scully, US) 652; 4, Hunter's Child (S Pettengill, US) 684. 4, Novell South Africa (J Provoyeur, SA) 887; 6, Thursday's Child (A Taylor, US) 1,383; 7, Ecureuil Poitou Charentes 2 (I Autessier, Fr) 2,553. Class 2: 1, True Blue (D Adams, Aust) 499. 2, Kodak (G Soldini, It) 500, 3, Newcastle Australia (A Nebauer, Aust) 1,558; 4, Jimroda II (N Vaughan, GB) 1,674; 5, Cornwall (R Dave, GB) 1,897; 6, Sky Catcher (N Rowe, GB) 2,157; 7, Shuten-Dohji II (M Saito, Japan) 2,388; 8, Henry Hornblower (H Mitchell, GB) 3,543.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm) °C	Last snow
AUSTRIA							
Mayrhofen	12	30	fair powder	closed	cloud 4		21/12
(Non-glacier pistes now open; six of 22 lifts open)							
Obergurgl	25	55	good powder	good	snow -4		21/12
(Fresh powder on thin base; 14 of 22 lifts open)							
Schladming	20	65	good powder	closed	snow 1		21/12
(Excellent skiing on open runs; fresh snow all day)							
Söll	10	20	fair powder	closed	cloud 1		21/12
(Fresh powder on hard base; more runs open soon)							
St Anton	10	100	good powder	worn	snow -9		21/12
(Excellent powder skiing; more pistes open for weekend)							
FRANCE							
Les Arcs	10	130	good powder	closed	fair -5		20/12
(Good skiing on all runs open above 2,000 metres)							
Avoriaz	15	90	good varied	closed	fair -2		20/12
(Good piste skiing on all open runs; 17 of 39 lifts open)							
Chamonix	10	90	good powder	closed	sun 0		20/12
(Some lifts now open at Argentiere; good piste skiing)							
Courchevel	15	80	good varied	art	cloud -4		21/12
(Generally good pistes skiing but some icy/rocky patches)							
La Plagne	20	100	fair powder	poor	fine -6		20/12
(Best skiing still on Bellecote glacier)							
Tignes	45	110	good	varied	good sun -11		21/12
(Excellent skiing with fresh powder; very cold)							
Val d'Isère	40	105	good	varied	fair sun -5		21/12
(Excellent snow and skiing; cold, -16°C at 3,000 metres)							
Val Thorens	40	120	good powder	good	sun -12		21/12
(Generally good skiing though very cold)							
ITALY							
Cervinia	10	200	icy	varied	fair fine -7		20/12
(Generally good skiing; icy patches)							
SWITZERLAND							
C Montana	10	40	fair	varied	closed snow -7		21/84
(More lifts open; base still a little thin)							

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial

YESTERDAY'S RACING RESULTS

Ludlow

Going: good (good to soft in patches)

12.30 (2m hdle) 1, TIR NA NOG (J Ryan, 33-1); 2, Freddie Muck (D Bridgwater, 6-4 fav); 3, Sandriff (M A Fitzgerald, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 5 Two Cents, 11 Comic Turn, 14 Sebastopol (4th), 16 Jason's Boy, 20 Vital Score (5th), Warner For Sport, 25 Hoodwinker (6th), 33 Hennerwood Oak, 50 Winters Cottage, 66 Credit Call. 13 ran. 1¼l, 3l, 7l, 3l, nk. Mrs L Shelly at Allestree. Tote £17.10, £4.30, £1.30, £2.20 DF £20.80 CSF, £79.38

1.00 (3m hdle) 1, SUBLIME FELLOW (M A Fitzgerald, 13-8); 2, Certainly Strong (A Maguire, 6-4 fav), 3, Go Ballistic (W Marston, 25-1) ALSO RAN. 11-2 Three Philosophers (5th), 16 Kalcko, The Padre, 25 Bone Setter (4th), 50 Belly Parson (5th), 100 Brooksong, Heresy, Jack A Hoy (ur), Mandalla Melody. 12 ran. 4l, ½l, 10l, 4l, 5l, N Henderson at Lambourn Tote £2.70, £1.30, £1.40, £3.40. DF, £1.60. CSF, £4.23

1.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, PERCY SMOLLETT (A Maguire, 4-1, Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Lucky Again (B Powell, 11-1), 3, Mr Entertainer (M A Fitzgerald, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 13-8 fav Always Remember (6th), 10 St Ahnans Lad (4th), 12 I Like It A Lot (pu), 66 Cock Sparrow (l), Ruppies (5th), 100 Paddy In Pans (pu) 9 ran. 6l, 7l, 25l, 13l, 30l. D Nicholson at Temple Guting. Tote: £3.90, £1.10, £1.80, £1.40, DF £19.70. Trio: £20.60. CSF, £39.03. Trocast: £137 11

2.00 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, STAR MOVER (T Murphy, 11-2); 2, Star Of Oughterard (K Dempsey, 10-1), 3, Al Sket (J A McCarthy, 10-11. ALSO RAN: 4-1 fav Balsaf (6th), 8 Gonnabebig (pu), Lavalight (4th), 16-2 Spanish Whisper (6th), 14 Ravenspurr, 25 Barbary Reel, Bidders Clown, 33 Badboy, 50 Charday, Inchydoney Boy. 100 Silver Shilling. 14 ran. NR Punchbag. 15l, 10l, 4l, ½l, 20l. W G M Turner at Sheriffhales. Tote £5.70; £2.30, £2.70, £2.80. DF £16.30. Trio: £70.00. CSF, £51.47. Trocast £568 33.

2.30 (2m ch) 1, MONDAY CLUB (S McNeill, 2-1); 2, Easthorpe (M A Fitzgerald, 6-4 fav), 3, Final Ace (Mr M Jackson, 50-1). ALSO RAN: 7 Even Blue (f), 8 Cool Character (4th), 14 Essdoubleyou (5th), 20 Fine Harvest (f), 33 Thanet (pu), 66 On The Tear (5th) 9 ran. 7l, 11l, 3l, dist, 3½l. J Tuck at Didmarton. Tote £3.00, £1.50, £1.30, £8.30. DF £2.00. CSF £5.09.

3.00 (3m ch) 1, ALICE SMITH (W McFarland, 11-1), 2, Badbury Lad (R Greene, 14-1), 3, Pant Llin (J Lodder, 20-1). ALSO RAN 11-4 fav Cregg Boreen (4th), 9-2 Touch Of Winter, 5 Four Hearts (f), 8 Punter's Symphony (pu), 10 Ask The Governor (6th), 12 Marchwood (5th), 25 Deming Bud, 33 Colonel Office (pu), 50 Impeccable Timing, Just (pu), Sukaab (pu) 14 ran. NR John Roger, Nick The Dreamer. 2l, 1l, 3½l, 6l, nk. B Eckley at Brecon. Tote £9.90, £2.00, £5.10, £1.50 DF £97.70 Trio £183.00. CSF, £138.98. Trocast £2,718.50.

3.30 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, CERTAIN ANGLE (G Tormey, 11-2), 2, Apache Prince (M A Fitzgerald, 12-1); 3, Oxford Quill (D Morris, 20-1). ALSO RAN. 11-4 fav Wassis Million, 9-2 Pongo Waring (4th), 12 Admiral Byng (pu), Bee Mey Do (5th), Fiery Fred (pu), Wayward Sailor (6th), 16 Queens Contractor (pu), 20 Golden Madampbo, 25 Chris's Glen. 12 ran NR Jay Em Ess. 9l, 3½l, 2½l, 1l, dist. P Hobbs at Minehead.

Tote: £7.30; £3.30, £5.10, £8.40. DF: £19.70. Trio: £144.90. CSF: £61.82. Tricast: £1,110.81

Jackpot: not won (pool of £9,587.88 carried forward to Kempton Park on Monday).

Quadpot: £273.70 (part won; pool of £147.86 carried forward to Kempton Park on Monday). Placepot: £287.90.

Southwell

Going: standard (AW), soft with heavy patches (turf)

12.20 (2m hdle) 1, Major's Law (P McLoughlin, 7-2 jt-fav), 2, Major Yasai (6-1), 3, Full Shilling (7-2 jt-fav). 12 ran. 3½l, 1¼l, Miss R Pelman. Tote £6.00, £2.10, £3.20, £1.20 DF £28.90 CSF £25.82

12.50 (2m 4f 110yd chl) 1, Elite Reg (R Dunwoody, 6-5 jt-fav), 2, Les Detector (6-5 jt-fav), 3, Kinbrigh Gale (9-1). 7 ran NR Delusman. 12l, dist M Pipe. Tote £2.00, £2.00, £1.70. DF, £1.60. CSF, £4.23

1.20 (2m 4f ch) 1, PERCY SMOLLETT (A Maguire, 4-1, Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Lucky Again (B Powell, 11-1), 3, Mr Entertainer (M A Fitzgerald, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 13-8 fav Always Remember (6th), 10 St Ahnans Lad (4th), 12 I Like It A Lot (pu), 66 Cock Sparrow (l), Ruppies (5th), 100 Paddy In Pans (pu) 9 ran. 6l, 7l, 25l, 13l, 30l. D Nicholson at Temple Guting. Tote: £3.90, £1.10, £1.80, £1.40, DF £19.70. Trio: £20.60. CSF, £39.03. Trocast: £137 11

1.50 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Russinsky (M Hourigan, 2-1), 2, Prince Yeza (11-2); 3, Old Road (10-1) Seven Of Diamonds 6-4 fav (pu), 5 ran 20l, 4l. G Brawery. Tote: £3.00; £1.50, £2.20 DF: £10.00 CSF £11.05.

2.20 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Even Flow (J Osborne, 5-1), 2, Punters Overhead (4-5 fav), 3, Niyaka (8-1) 5 ran. 6l, dist T Casey. Tote: £7.40; £2.40, £1.10 DF £3.20 CSF: £9.34.

2.50 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Nazzaro (P McLoughlin, 10-1)' 2, Southerly Gale (11-4 jt-fav); 3, Countess Venezuela (8-1) Dominant Serenade 11-4 jt-fav (f). 11 ran. NR: The Black Bishop. ¾l, 20l. W G M Turner. Tote £5.50; £2.40, £1.40, £2.20 DF £37.30. CSF £39.56

3.20 (2m flat) 1, Tara Rambler (Mark Roberts, 4-1), 2, Mandicat (7-4 fav), 3, Ron On The Run (14-1). 14 ran 1l, 3l. Miss S Hall. Tote: £4.40; £2.40, £1.50, £1.10. DF: £12.10. CSF £12.83

Placepot: £46.20. Quadpot: £42.00.

☐ The trainer Tommy Stack yesterday confirmed that he intends to run Gale Again in the King George VI Triple-print Chase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day. Stack said: "The ground will suit him there." Gale Again is quoted at 20-1 for the King George by Ladbrokes, who have cut the prices of both Barton Bank and The Fellow to 3-1 behind the 5-2 favourite, Bradbury Star. William Hill report strong support for Bradbury Star, in from 11-4 to 9-4.

Panzanini breaks through to complete Italian World Cup double

Tomba recovers to remain unbeaten

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

ALBERTO TOMBA'S outstanding start to the Alpine skiing season continued yesterday when he won his fourth World Cup slalom race to stamp ever more firmly his authority on rivals who are becoming just a little bewildered by his imperious form. Furthermore, he did so in style, pipping Thomas Sykora, of Austria, into second place after a breathtaking second run at Lech, in Austria.

Trailing by 0.02sec after the first run of the two-stage race, Tomba, from Italy, set off at breakneck speed on his second ski of the 180-metre Schlegelkopf piste.

It was almost too fast. At the halfway stage, he looked as if he had missed a gate before recovering with, for such a brilliant technician, a rare display of strength and agility.

His combined time of 1min 43.57sec was confirmed only after a slow motion replay showed that his scramble back to the course had been successful. He beat Sykora by 0.02sec.

"I made a big mistake and I lost maybe a second; it's incredible," Tomba said. "I cannot believe it. I really don't know how I recovered. Maybe it's because I'm in good shape. I hope after this I can be better in the giant slalom tomorrow."

Tomba had already won one slalom at Lech this week, on Tuesday, a day after celebrating his 28th birthday. Indeed, he has won all four slaloms of the World Cup season so far, which, with two wins at the end of last season, brings his total of consecutive successes to six. The victory extended his lead in the overall World Cup standings over Michael von Gruenigen, of Switzerland.

Tomba's next race is at Alta Badia, in Italy, where, yesterday, Sabina Panzanini completed an Italian Alpine double and claimed her first World Cup victory when she edged out Anita Wachter, of Austria, to win a giant slalom. It was a perfect place for Panzanini, 22, to celebrate her breakthrough at World Cup level — she comes from the nearby city of Merano.

VINCENZO PINTO



Panzanini turns during the run that earned her a first World Cup victory in a giant slalom at Alta Badia in Italy yesterday

Panzanini, whose previous best was second to Wachter in a World Cup giant slalom at Steamboat in the United States in 1992, was predictably delighted by the result. "She was ahead of me two years ago, but I guess things have changed," she said.

Wachter, who has slumped since winning the overall World Cup title in 1993, took a fractional lead over Panzanini on the first leg, but a bad slip just out of the gate nearly sent her tumbling down the piste on her second run and she was lucky to finish the leg, let alone finish second. Panzanini's overall time of 2min 21.03sec was 0.47sec quicker than Wachter's.

The race was staged at Alta Badia after being postponed from the French town of Morzine because of a lack of snow, but the Italian spectators were hardly complaining.

As well as Panzanini's win, they celebrated the return of Deborah Compagnoni, the double Olympic champion, who finished third after missing the first nine races of the season with a kidney infection.

Compagnoni, who finished in 2min 22.14sec, said afterwards: "I didn't think I was going to finish on the podium. I'd have been happy to place in the top ten." She won the Olympic giant slalom title in Lillehammer in February to add to her the gold medal she collected in 1992 in the super-giant slalom.

Wachter, despite losing, had her best race of the season after reaching an emotional low last week when she finished fourteenth in a World Cup slalom in Sestriere.

Vreni Schneider, of Switzerland, who is the defending overall World Cup champion, was ninth in an event she last won in January, 1992. She won her 53rd World Cup race in Sestriere on Sunday.

Results, page 39

McColgan ready for Durham challenge

LIZ McCOLGAN has declared herself fit to join a strong field in the IAAF World Cross Country Challenge race in Durham on December 31. The event, over six kilometres at Maiden Castle, will be McColgan's third race since she started her comeback by winning a race in Coventry in October. Two Irish runners will provide a stern challenge to McColgan, 30, who won the race three years ago. Sonia O'Sullivan, who dominated women's middle-distance running last summer, is joined by Catherine McKiernan, who won the first women's European title earlier this month.

Wang Xiujie and Zhan Jiangyang, of China, intend to run, while other overseas competitors include Rose Cheruiyot, of Kenya, Kate McCandless and Carmen Troncoso, of the United States, and Gigi Asha, of Ethiopia. "It's the best women's field we have put together," John Caine, the meeting director, said. However, notable absentees include Yelena Romanova, from Russia, the Olympic 3,000 metres champion who withdrew last week, and Helen Chapngeno, from Kenya, the world cross country champion.

New Zealanders wilt

CRICKET: Marais Erasmus, the Boland medium-pace bowler, claimed career-best figures of six for 22 to heap considerable embarrassment on the New Zealanders on the first day of their three-day match in Paarl, South Africa, yesterday. After bowling out Boland for 83, with Danny Morrison and Chris Pringle taking three wickets each, the New Zealanders were confident of building a substantial first-innings lead.

However, they mustered just three more runs than the local side as Erasmus swept through their batting. Only Bryan Young, with ten, and Stephen Fleming, who scored 30, progressed to double figures. Boland fared little better in their second innings when Pringle claimed his fourth wicket of a remarkable day as Boland recovered from three for two to 31 for two.

Mair defeats top seed

TENNIS: Michele Mair, of Edinburgh, recovered to beat Sarah Bentley, the top seed from Surrey, 7-5, 6-2 in the semi-finals of the British Women's Tennis Association Christmas tournament at Queen's Club, London, yesterday. Mair, who won Reebok tournaments at Sheffield and Portsmouth and was runner-up at Wrexham, trailed 5-1 in the first set. She saved two set points in the seventh game, a third at 5-2 and another at 5-4 before taking command. Kaye Hand, 26, the defending champion from Berkshire, who was runner-up in the national championships at Telford last month, beat Laura Austin, of Sussex, 6-2, 6-2 in the other semi-final.

Short appointments

FOOTBALL: Doncaster Rovers have parted company with Bruce McLellan, their general manager and chief scout, and Jimmy Neighbour, their assistant manager. Both men previously worked together at West Ham United and were appointed only three months ago. Oxford United, the leaders of the second division, have extended the contracts of Denis Smith, their manager, and Malcolm Crosby, their coach, until June 1997. Warren Neill, of Portmouth, has retired with a back injury one game short of his 400th league appearance. Neill, 32, was yesterday released after a year-long battle with sciatica.

Hall's late invitation

BADMINTON: Darren Hall, the England No 1, from Essex, has received a late invitation to take part in the men's singles at the Danish Masters, in Copenhagen from December 26 to 29. He will join Chris Hunt, the European champion, from Lancashire, and Simon Archer, from Worcestershire, who are taking part in the men's doubles at the invitation-only event. Ciro Ciniglio, the England team manager, said yesterday: "We are delighted that Darren has been asked to take part in this prestigious event. It is an honour to be asked. It will mean travelling on Christmas Day, but he feels it is worth it."

Pelé joins Government

FOOTBALL: Pelé, the legendary Brazilian footballer, was named Sports Minister in Brazil's incoming Government yesterday. "Pelé is a symbol of Brazil that has come up from the roots ... a symbol of a Brazil that has triumphed," Fernando Henrique Cardoso, the president-elect, said. Pelé, regarded by many as the world's most accomplished footballer, retired from playing in 1976. He is a director of Santos, the Brazilian club with whom he spent most of his career. Cardoso, who won the presidential election in Brazil in October, is due to be sworn in on January 1.

Lomas ousts Holt

TABLE TENNIS: Lisa Lomas has lost her position at the top of the England women's rankings to Andrea Holt, the 1991 national champion. Lomas had been No 1 since 1991, but Holt's recent success in the European League has meant a reversal of their positions. Holt will be spearheading the host nation's challenge at the English Open Championships, which start at Thornaby on January 4. Chen Xinhua, from Rotherham, retains the top position on the men's list, fending off the challenge of Matthew Syed, the No 2, from Berkshire.

Time for Conway

HOCKEY: Nick Conway, who is close to full England selection, has been named in a talented under-21 squad of 16 to play in a four nations tournament at Barcelona from January 6 to 8 against Spain, Germany and Italy. The purpose of the exercise is to prepare the England team for the European qualifying tournament at Genoa in April.

ENGLAND SQUAD: B Barnes (East Grinstead), N Conway (Old Loughtonians), J Lewis (Havant), G Fordham (Hounslow), A Boyse (East Grinstead), Manpreet Kocher (Hull), D Glelle (Havant), B Garrard (Surbiton), R Stamp (Doncaster), P Gray (Olton and West Warwickshire), J Evernett (Canterbury), S Wood (Beeston), J French (Teddington), D Hall (Guildford), A Simons (Southgate), J Wallis (Teddington).

Key players missing from Leicester's festive line-up

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

LEICESTER will chase a third consecutive victory over the Barbarians on December 27 without several players whose names have become synonymous with their success. Jez Harris, the leading points scorer, Tony Underwood, the England wing, and John Wells, their experienced flanker, will all miss the annual Christmas encounter at Welford Road because of injury.

Harris's absence will be felt particularly keenly because the Tigers have chosen not to select John Liley at full back, leaving themselves without a front-rank goalkicker. Liley is unavailable for the first league game of the new year, at Northampton on January 7, so Leicester have decided to play Wayne Kilford instead.

Harris, who has accumulated 175 points in senior matches this season, is resting a hamstring strain which brought his game against Blackheath in the Pilkington Cup last Saturday to a premature end. But, of the club's seven England-squad members, only the younger Underwood misses the game.

Wells has had a knee operation and is unlikely to be fit until mid-January, but Chris Tarbuck will be a very adequate deputy. The Barbarians game represents an opportunity, too, for Jamie Hamilton, who plays at scrum half while Aadel Kardooni recovers from a hyper-extension of the knee ligaments; Hamilton's partner at half back will be Niall Malone, the Ireland international, who has been playing for the Irish Exiles.

Outside him, the form of Diccon Edwards is being carefully monitored by both England and Wales selectors. Edwards, the centre from Wakefield, has come through the England representative programme at schools and under-21 level, but was watched during the cup game against Blackheath by members of the Welsh selection panel, participated in a Welsh senior squad training evening on Monday and may shortyly have to decide where his national loyalties lie.

Roger Whittaker has been appointed director of rugby at Nottingham. Whittaker, who spent the past 18 months in charge of Leicester's development squad, retains his position as coach of Scottish Exiles. Nottingham are at present struggling in the lower half of the second division.

Meanwhile, the mid-term focus of the Welsh domestic season is on the Arms Park tonight, where Pontypridd attempt to halt Cardiff's charge at the top of the Heineken League. Victory will carry Cardiff six points clear of second-placed Pontypridd, who lost the first meeting of the clubs 12-6 in September.

Mark Rowley, the Pontypridd lock, has recovered from a hairline fracture of the thumb in time to play against Derwyn Jones, the 6ft 10in international brought low with a back injury against Bridgend earlier this month. Cardiff are without three capped players, Mike Rayer, Nigel Walker and Emyr Lewis, while Pontypridd's other change from the side that beat Newport in the Swalec Cup last weekend sees Matthew Lloyd return at flanker.

The rivalry between these clubs is part of Welsh rugby legend, and has spilled over on occasions. But Gareth Davies, the Cardiff chief executive, is optimistic that the players will be stimulated by an anticipated crowd of nearly 15,000. "It's important the players realise their responsibility and show what a good product we have and how they can benefit the game as a whole," Davies said.

The Parliamentary rugby league group, led by David Hinchcliffe, MP for Wakefield, says the Rugby Football Union (RFU) has done nothing to benefit the game by suspending Adrian Spencer for a year. Spencer, the Cambridge University centre who has played rugby league for London Crusaders, is the subject of a motion from the pressure group, which attracted 112 signatures on its first day, condemning the RFU for applying the regulations on amateurism to Spencer.

LEICESTER (v Barbarians). W Kilford; S Hackney, S Potter, D Edwards, R Underwood; N Malone, J Hamilton; G Rowntree, R Cockerill, D Garforth, C Tarbuck, M Johnson, T Smith, N Back, D Richards.

Hope soars as Funaki jumps to top flight

JAPAN has unearthed a new leading ski jumper in Kazuyoshi Funaki, with less than three months before the world championships in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

With jumps of 96 and 94 metres, the longest in each round, Funaki, 19, outclassed a good field at a Continental Cup meeting on the Lahti medium hill, in Finland. Funaki placed second on the big hill last Saturday, behind Andreas Goldberger, of Austria.

Japan performed well at the Olympic Games in Lillehammer earlier this year, with Noriaki Kasai and Takanobu Okabe just missing out on medals and the four-man team losing the chance of winning the gold medal on the last jump.

Funaki, however, has come from outside the top group. He was moved up to World Cup level after finishing second and third in the Continental Cup, which he leads, in Lillehammer, and he won the first World Cup event of the season, at Planica, in Slovakia.

Funaki's first jump at Lahti equalled the record for the medium hill. He uses a daring style with the body low down between the skis: a technique for which the Japanese are well-known. "The first jump was near a dream effort," he said. "I am in good shape and I think can sustain the form to the German-Austrian jumping week."

Northey follows well-worn trail

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

ST HELENS made their third signing from rugby union in eight months yesterday when Andy Northey, 22, the Waterloo and North division centre, changed codes. Northey hails from the town and has an established rugby league pedigree. His father, Keith, played at Knowsley Road in the Sixties.

Northey has signed a 3½-year contract worth around £80,000. His recruitment follows the earlier captures of Scott Gibbs, the Wales international centre from Swansea, and Apollo Perelini, the Western Samoa back-row forward.

"He is an aggressive tackler and has a fine pair of hands," Eric Hughes, the St Helens' coach said of Northey. Northey's ability to adapt is not in question. But it remains to be seen in which position he will be used.

There is no shortage of centres at St Helens and a wing berth is often seen as the best place to learn. But a ball-playing forward role is a possibility, given the creative abilities of a player who stands 6ft and weighs 15st 10lb.

Hughes was struck by Northey's power and incisiveness while playing for Lancashire this season, and particularly for the North against the South and South-West earlier this month.

Wigan, Warrington and Salford had also made him offers, but Northey felt a loyalty to the club he has supported since childhood.

He is due to make his first appearance in a reserve team game a week tomorrow. "He'll get his first-team chance sooner rather than later," Hughes said.

St Helens, without the financial resources which are at the disposal of Wigan and Leeds, see rugby union and youth development as their main sources of recruitment. Steve Prescott, their Great Britain Under-21 full back, has signed an extended contract until 1998.

Perelini, who pondered his move to league for three years following the rugby union World Cup in 1991, has quickly established himself in the side. Although he retired with a leg injury and a cut eye during the win over Batley in the Regal Trophy third-round replay on Tuesday, he should be fit for the first of two meetings in two weeks with Wigan at home on Monday.

St Helens fought back from 22-14 down to win 50-22 and secure a quarter-final with Wigan at Central Park. They ran in five tries during the last 17 minutes with Prescott completing his hat-trick during this spell. Bobby Goulding, the Great Britain scrum half, paid a visit to the sin bin, but kicked eight goals as well as scoring a try.

☐ Jonathan Davies expects to play his first game for Warrington, against Widnes next Monday, since injuring his shoulder in Great Britain's win over Australia at Wembley in October.

MATCHES PLAYED 17TH DEC '94 F.A. CUP SPONSOR
LITTLEWOODS POOLS
THIS WEEK'S FESTIVE FORTUNES
DAVE ROBERTS FROM SOMERSET WINS £401,429
CAMEO, IRAN WINS £669,073
KAY MURPHY FROM DIDCOT WINS £210,062
PLUS 8 OTHER TOP WINNERS OF OVER £178,413 EACH
24 Pts £178,413.20
23½ Pts £2,438.65
23 Pts £1,158.15
22½ Pts £101.55
22 Pts £39.65
21½ Pts £15.40
21 Pts £3.15
4 DRAWS £10.35
10 HOMES (PAID ON 9 HOMES) ... £212.00
5 AWAYS £1,745.90
Expenses and Commission 3rd December 1994 - 22.2%
All dividends subject to reservation

PPA
DIVIDENDS FOR MATCHES PLAYED MONDAY, 26TH DECEMBER WILL BE PUBLISHED ON SATURDAY, 31ST DECEMBER 1994.
PLEASE NOTE - DUE TO THE HOLIDAY PERIOD, RECEIPT OF WINNINGS MAY BE DELAYED.
POSTAL CLIENTS - PLEASE ENSURE YOUR COUPON FOR 31ST DECEMBER 1994 IS POSTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
THE POOL PROMOTERS ASSOCIATION WISH ALL THEIR CLIENTS
A MERRY CHRISTMAS

Els named player of year ahead of strong competition

John Hopkins, golf correspondent, reports on the latest honour to be handed to the all-conquering South African

Just before Christmas each year, a panel of golf writers meets in London to select the player of the year from within the ranks of professionals on the European Tour. It is an argumentative and often noisy occasion as the debate sways this way and that.

This year, there were three strong candidates from which to choose: José Maria Olazábal, who won the Masters, Ernie Els, the South African, who won the United States Open, and Colin Montgomerie, the first man since Sandy Lyle, in 1980, to top the order of merit in successive years. Rarely, if ever, at such a meeting had there been so many candidates with such strong credentials.

Judged by the highest standards, the achievements of Montgomerie were considered to be inferior to those of the other two. He had been beaten by Els in a play-off for the United States Open, lost to Els in the World Match Play Championship and, though he had competed in 21 events in Europe and won two in a row in August, he had not won a major title.

That left Olazábal and Els, two young turks who are both in their twenties and who had each won their first major in 1994. Who had the better record this year?

Olazábal, the Spaniard, won his first green jacket in some style at Augusta, triumphing by two strokes. Olazábal's victory was the ninth in this event by a member of the European Tour since the start of the Eighties. Olazábal then took the Volvo PGA championship at Wentworth by one stroke, sneaking past Els with a final round of 65, seven under par, to Els's 69. In August, Olazábal won the highly regarded World Series in Ohio. A very good year by anybody's standards.

Els, the big South African with the slow smile, started with a runaway victory in Dubai, opening with a 61. He won the United States Open at only his seond attempt, and the Gene Sarazen World Open when it was held for the first time in November. These and other performances were sufficient for him to be named rookie of the year in the United States. Then came two performances that were highly significant in this context.

Up to now, it would have been easier to place a piece of paper between them than to choose one as having a better year than the other. In the World Match Play championship, however, Els defeated Ballesteros in a blaze of twos, Olazábal and then Montgomerie; a stunning performance in his first appearance in this autumn classic.

At worst, that enabled him to draw level with Olazábal. In the last event of the year, the Johnnie Walker world championship, he waltzed away with the title, winning by six strokes, just as he had in Dubai in January. This performance, in an event in which Olazábal declined to play, was just sufficient to give Els the edge over his rival.

Els deserved to be named European golfer of the year. He is only 25. He is a charming fellow with a sound head on his broad shoulders and he gives the impression that he does not really know what has hit him. Next year, it will not be so easy.



Els: strong credentials

هكذا من الأصل

Olympic spirit survives in a modern world



Edwards: ski-jumping visitor to Olympics

Taking part. Being there. That most basic philosophy in the creation of the Olympic Games remains as valid 100 years later. Last week, it was vigorously reinforced; a contradiction for those who allege that the Games have lost their way.

There are 45 member countries of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) with a population of less than one million. The smallest is Nauru, the Pacific island, with 10,000; the largest, Swaziland, with 860,000. A gold medal, such as that of Josy Barthel for Luxembourg in the 1952 1,500 metres, rarely arrives. These countries' continuing participation, a characteristic that distinguishes the Olympics from ordinary world championships, was guaranteed by the agreement in Atlanta last week — between the IOC executive board and the biennial assembly of Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) — that any country has the right to enter up to six competitors, irrespective of the qualifying standard set by individual international federations in the attempt to limit numbers to 10,000.

I will long remember the sense of fulfilment of Judd Bankert, the first Olympian of Guam (population 130,000). He had no hope in the 1988 ten kilometres biathlon. When he fell and cut his face, it was out of sight from the public in the pine forest at Canmore outside Calgary. He had spent £12,000 of his own money on training, supported by his wife, just to be there.

He did not finish last and, afterwards, said: "I feel my presence is justified and that competitors like me should be acceptable, as long as they're not a hindrance to others, affecting the outcome of the race."

Under the new agreement, not more than two competitors — one man, one woman — may compete in a single sport, although the International Amateur Athletic Federation will accept up to four. In sports with rigid, fixed quotas, such as tennis, boxing and badminton, a small number of wild-card places will be available for such entries.



David Miller welcomes an agreement that guarantees small countries the chance to compete in sport's greatest championships

This is not to suggest that the door is being reopened for such competitors as Eddie Edwards, Britain's myopic ski jumper, who are no more than Olympic tourists. A country applying for discretionary entries must pass them first to the relative continental federation and then to a joint IOC/ANOC committee. Competitors must have achieved creditable performances in regional championships, such as the Central American Games, to ensure that they are an embarrassment to nobody, least of all themselves.

It is to be regretted that a move, led by the Cayman Islands and Barbados, to create a Universal Games for the sub-one million countries, failed to get off the ground last week. Such a subsidiary event would promote the identity and performances of minority nations, thereby adding to the unique quality of the Olympics. Robert Nunes, the Cayman Islands president, has devised a format of ten sports over eight days for about 1,800 competitors and is confident of raising £1.5 million in sponsorship to subsidise poorer nations. Barbados are willing inaugural hosts, although IOC support, in principle, is undermined by a lack of interest among Europe's eight small nations.

Sponsorship, the key to survival of the Olympic Games, whatever the anti-commercialisation criticism by some, continues to grow. At the assembly last week, there was agreement that all National Olympic Commitees (NOC) would sign into the TOP IV package of ten multinational sponsors for 1997 to 2000.

Every NOC will receive a minimum $40,000; hitherto, some countries have refused to join the first three TOP schemes, believing they could do better by independent sponsorship negotiation. Larger participating countries, such as Britain, receive in excess of £1 million from TOP and are still free to enter sponsorship contracts not conflicting with the exclusive fields of the TOP sponsors, such as Kodak, who have been associated with the Olympics since 1896.

The IOC also announced last week that it will introduce, for the 1996 Centenary Games, a legal waiver that must be signed by all competitors, coaches and officials, without which they will be ineligible. The waiver is an agreement to resolve disputes by reference to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), under the aegis of the International Council for Arbitration in Sport, rather than by recourse to civil courts. The latter will still remain the ultimate option. The seven Chinese swimmers who recently tested positive for dihydrotestosterone, are expected to take their case to CAS.

Carter sweeps to second win in Foster Cup

BY SALLY JONES

RICHARD CARTER, of Rugby, confirmed all the high opinions held of him by retaining the Foster Cup by winning the public schools rackets championship at Queen's Club, London, yesterday.

Carter, 17, powered through against the gritty Duncan Stahl, of Haileybury, in straight games, dropping only 11 points in the process.

The unseeded Stahl had done far better than expected to reach the final and fought back superbly from two games down in his semi-final against Mike Bellhouse, of Radley. Yesterday, however, there was never a hint of such a reprieve. Carter never let him into the game, opening with a string of tight, accurate services and retrieving brilliantly from all over the court.

Stahl hit several spectacular winners during some lively exchanges, but although the match was far closer than the score suggests, Carter ultimately had too much weight of shot for his gallant opponent.

A talented all-rounder, Carter has represented Warwickshire at rugby, cricket, squash and hockey at junior level. Although he is a powerful if unorthodox strokemaker, with an accurate, heavily-cut service, it is his timing and speed about the court that set him apart from his rivals.

He, too, faced problems in earlier rounds, and surprisingly dropped a game to the talented Neil Bailey, of Eton, in the semi-final. But his response to that setback was to raise his game to heights that Bailey could not match.

Carter has always looked a champion in the making, winning the junior colts' event in 1991 and taking the colts' championship a year later. He is the latest in a string of fine players produced by Philip Rosser, the Rugby professional.

Richard Montgomerie, one of his predecessors at Rugby, also a Foster Cup winner, is now playing cricket for Northamptonshire.

Rosser is particularly impressed with Carter's mental attitude. In a tight spot, he grits his teeth and goes for his shots. His speed carries him into positions which enable him to retrieve what look like certain winners and put away anything short of a length.

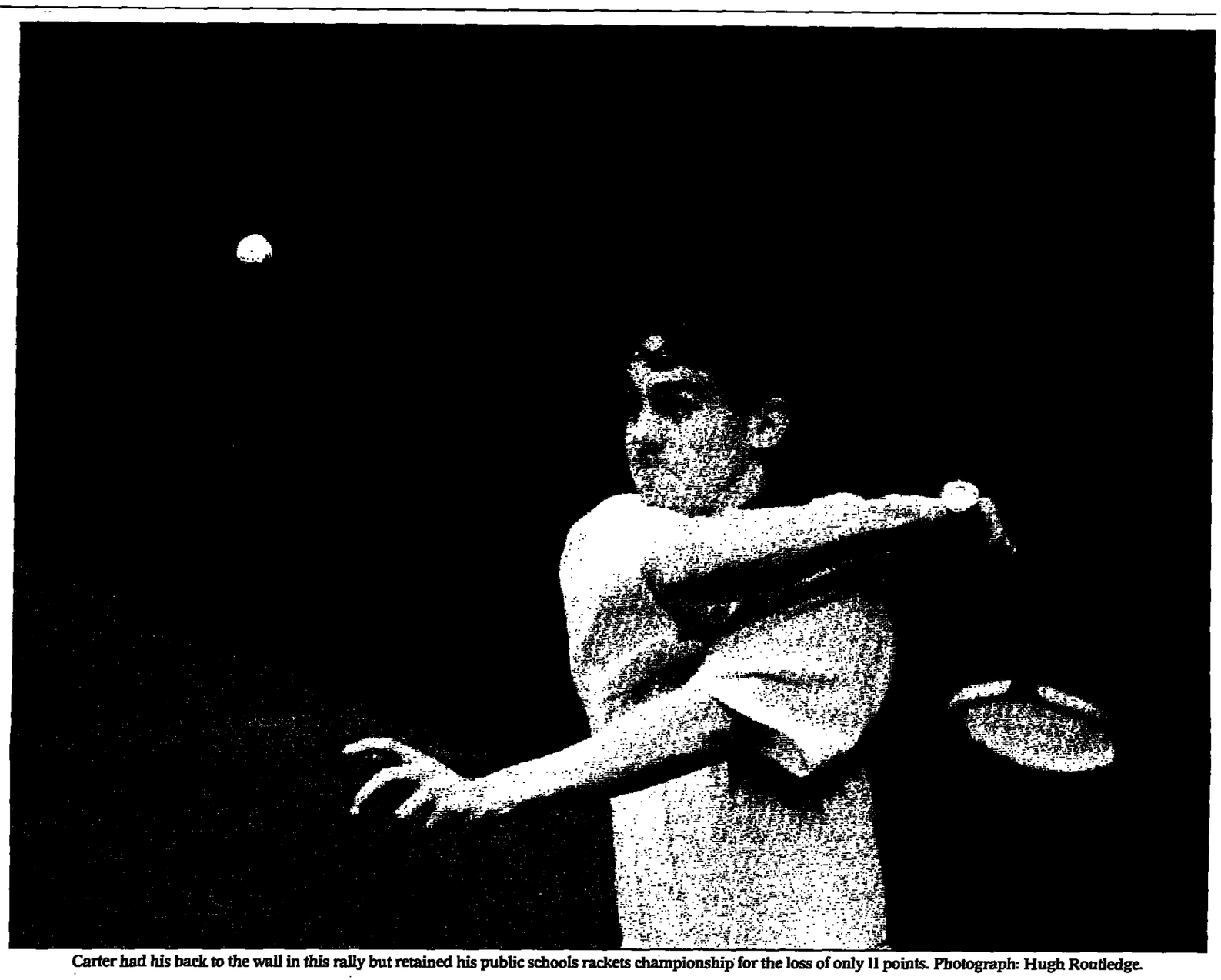
"He's a very bright, canny lad, too, a fast learner, who is quite willing to experiment with a new shot just before a competition," Rosser said.

Even though the mantle of overwhelming favouritism this season has hung heavily at times, Carter, who practises with Howard Angus, the former world champion, has never lacked enthusiasm.

"I adore the speed of the game and the tactical side of it," he said. "When I started and began learning how to straighten the ball down the walls, and put plenty of cut and power on it, I was hooked almost at once.

"Winning the Foster Cup in successive years is a real thrill and a great incentive for me to keep on training to try to make the grade at senior level."

RESULT: Final: R Carter (Rugby) bt D Stahl (Haileybury) 15-5, 15-3, 15-3.



Carter had his back to the wall in this rally but retained his public schools rackets championship for the loss of only 11 points. Photograph: Hugh Routledge.

Pedal power celebrated

THOSE who want to argue the merits of great riders of yesteryear, such as Eddy Merckx, against those of the moderns, headed by Miguel Indurain, will find *Cycling Heroes*, by Les Woodland, a captivating read. The careers of 18 male international champions of road and track are examined, along with that of one extraordinary woman, Beryl Burton.

Woodland recalls that it was 30 years ago that Jacques Anquetil, five times winner of the Tour de France, defended the right of competitors to make use of artificial aids to performance, claiming: "You would be a fool to imagine that a professional who races 235 days a year in all temperatures and conditions can hold up without a stimulant." He was not alone in that belief, but virtually alone in his admission.

Since the 1960s, which saw the death of Tom Simpson during the Tour de France, Britain has led the world in introducing the strictest medical controls on cyclists at national and international level. There remains the occasional miscreant but rarely among the champions. It is more likely to be one of his *domestiques*, desperate to stay in a race and help his leader, who errs.

Burton, whose amateur career spanned more than 30 years, calmed her nerves before a major event by knitting, anything from cardigans to gloves. This remarkable Yorkshire sportswoman won seven world championships (two road and five track pursuits) and was, for 25 years, unbeaten as Britain's best all-rounder.

The two-day visit of the Tour de France to Britain this year makes *Inside the Tour de France* a topical read. Irish sportswriter, David Walsh, has produced a cycling *Canterbury Tales* with a wide cast of characters. Phil Liggett's *revised The Complete Book of Performance Cycling* reflects his coverage of the Tour de France over 20 years.

Overshadowed in size by the previous three titles (but not in interest), is the *Collins Gem Bike Book*. Not much larger than a cigarette packet, it is the handiest book of its type for a newcomer to the sport.

Cycling Heroes: The Golden Years, by Les Woodland (Springfield Books) £17.95.
Inside The Tour de France, by David Walsh (Stanley Paul) £16.99.
The Complete Book of Performance Cycling, by Phil Liggett (Collins Willow) £14.99.
Collins Gem Bike Book (Harper Collins) £3.50.

PETER BRYAN

THE TIMES
ON BOXING DAY
SPORT
An up-to-date guide to the runners and riders in the day's ten meetings, including the King George VI Chase
Other national broadsheets are not publishing on Boxing Day. *The Times* is. Place your order with your newsagent now

Milan lose ground in championship race

MARCEL DESAILLY was sent off yesterday as AC Milan, the European champions, were held to a 0-0 draw at Torino in their *Serie A* match which left them languishing 13 points behind the league leaders, Parma.

Desailly was dismissed in the 73rd minute, receiving the yellow card for a foul and then being sent off for arguing over the referee's decision. Milan are joint eighth and their main problem is a chronic lack of firepower. They have scored just ten times in 13 league matches this season.

Guy Whittingham, the Aston Villa striker, holds the key to a transfer which could take him to Sheffield Wednesday in a swap deal with Ian Taylor, the midfield player. Whittingham, who has been unable to command a regular first-team place at Villa Park, is holding talks with Trevor Francis, the Wednesday manager, after the clubs agreed terms. "Trevor is having a word with Whittingham and hopefully something will develop," Brian Little, the Villa manager, said. "The sooner we can get this sorted out, the better. If we can get Taylor, it would give us quite a few options in midfield."

Sunderland have agreed to release Gary Owers and pay a cash adjustment in a bid to sign Martin Scott, the Bristol City full back. Owers, 27, travelled to Ashton Gate yesterday to discuss the move with Joe Jordan, the City manager.

SPORTS LETTERS

Sin-bin better than yellow card

From Mr Dan Crofts

Sir, It is good that rugby union is to adopt the disciplinary system of red and yellow cards in the five nations' championship this season (reports, December 13, 14), but the game should take note that the yellow-card system, as practised in football, is seriously defective.

It is both too light for some offences and too heavy for others. This would be corrected if a yellow card meant that the offender took ten minutes off the field, in the so-called "sin-bin", but suffered no further imposition to affect later games.

When a football referee gives a yellow card, an imposition does not accrue until a later match (except, of course, for a second yellow card in the same match). This is of no use in cup competitions, when the side in a losing position knows that it will not play in the next round unless it wins the present match (by fair means, or foul, perhaps).

A yellow card is too slight an imposition for such a match, whereas ten minutes in the sin-bin would deal with the matter straightaway. In league matches, the imposition is weak because it does not affect the present match and may be unfair because it could affect a later match, which may be against rivals not in a position in the league to take advantage of the weakened opposition.

It is good that the five nations' committee has decided that, in the early stages at least, yellow cards in two successive matches will not lead to a cumulative ban, though it may be different in the World Cup.

Even in such a small league as the five nations' championship, a highly valued player could get a yellow card in each of the first two matches (against the toughest opposition), but would not be banned until the third match, which may be against the weakest side, when his absence would not matter.

The yellow-card system may also, on some occasions, be too severe. A player may be given a card when the referee makes a mistake. But if he had been given ten minutes in the sin-bin, it would all be over and forgotten.

Yours faithfully,
DAN CROFTS,
4 Moorland Road,
Birmingham 16.

Penalty goals count too high

From Mr C. M. N. Wilson

Sir, As a result of Rob Andrew's impeccable goalkicking in the international rugby match against Canada at Twickenham, the scoreline, particularly at half-time, bore no relation to the differences between the sides.

Rugby is a 15-man handling game and both sides moved the ball well. However, by the time England started to score tries, a cushion of 18 points had already been made for them by Andrew's six penalty goals. That took away pressures on them to win the match and reduced enjoyment for the spectators.

These free shots at goal were taken by a great goalkicker who tees up the ball and kicks it totally unopposed. All the other players have to be absolutely still for however long it takes.

This distorts the game. The impact of penalty goals should be reduced.

Yours faithfully,
C. M. N. WILSON,
44 Parchment Street,
Winchester,
Hampshire.

Resignation with dignity

From Mr Michael Christides

Sir, I find myself in complete agreement with Rob Hughes's appraisal (December 19) of the recent Arsenal malaise. I would go even further.

If the Arsenal manager really cared about the good name of his club, he would choose to resign in dignity (we would all the more respect him for that) once it became apparent that enormous harm is being caused to this historic club by the attendant adverse publicity. As we know from previous instances involving managers or politicians, this can only get worse and, eventually, will lead to an undignified finale.

Such a move need not necessarily be interpreted as a an admission of guilt. Proud men have resigned for less and subsequent exoneration has tended to increase their stature. The fact is that Graham has probably reached already beyond the point where his continuing presence at Highbury, his impressive record notwithstanding, is likely to cause more harm than good, both to him and the club.

With the Premiership title already lost again for this year, a new manager could focus on the other silverware still within grasp and, unthinkable as it may appear at this stage, avoid the risk of relegation which may become more real if Arsenal continue for much longer on their demoralised and rudderless drift.

A new manager could also spend some of the accumulated profits on strengthening the squad with the high-class players it desperately needs if it is to remain one of the top three sides in the country. The Arsenal supporters deserve nothing less.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL CHRISTIDES,
49 Beaufort Road,
Ealing, W5.

Vital safeguards

From Dr Jeremy Bryan

Sir, Twenty years of analytical experience leave me with grave doubts about the validity of the evidence used in the drugs hearing against the athlete, Diane Modahl (report, December 15).

There are three vital safeguards required for any analysis:

1. The sample must be shown to come from the source claimed and must be representative of that source.
2. The sample must be kept prior to analysis so that it neither deteriorates nor becomes contaminated.
3. The analysis must be conducted according to prescribed protocols using the necessary calibration standards and blanks.

Proofs that these safeguards have been adhered to is provided by "chain of custody" and quality assurance evidence. Without this evidence, results are insupportable and should be rejected.

In Modahl's case, this evidence was not available, casting doubts on the ability of the British Athletic Federation to prove to the disciplinary hearing that the results were not, for example, an erroneous analysis of a contaminated sample from another athlete.

Laboratories can and do make mistakes; I am at present involved in one such case where the results from two independent laboratories differ by a factor of 100.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY BRYAN,
Managing director,
Enviro-Logic Ltd.,
42-46 Weymouth Street, W1.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 071-782 5211. They must include a daytime telephone number.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

PESTA
(c) In Malaysia, a festive gathering, a festival. Malaysian from the Portuguese *festa* a feast. "The dominant Malay element was gathered together in a highly successful three day Pesta or Festival."

POPPIT
(a) A kind of bead, from the verb *to pop*: "Poppits were beads with a small bar which pushed into a hole in the next bead so that one could make necklaces or bracelets."

ROSINER
(a) A drink of spirits, a stiff drink, Irish and Oz slang, from *rosin* slang for a drink. Samuel Beckett, *More Pricks than Kicks*, 1934: "And the rosiners," said Mrs Tough, "will you have that in the lav too? Reader, a rosiner is a drop of the hard."

POPSICLE
(c) An ice lolly, also figuratively and attributively, a fanciful name. Popsicle is a proprietary name in America. "Leon Blatt had just consumed a Popsicle and was now busy scraping its stick with his tongue."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1, Rxg6+! is decisive: e.g. 1, . . . Kxg6 (1, . . . fxg6; 2, Qb7+); 2, Qf6+ Kh7; 3, Bxf7 Rg8; 4, Qf5+ Kg7; 5, Qg6+ Kh8; 6, Bf6+ Rg7; 7, Qh6 mate.

Former England captain decries club-before-country outlook

Gooch says counties are hurting England

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN MELBOURNE

GRAHAM GOOCH, as proud a patriot as anyone who ever played cricket for England, spoke out yesterday against the self-interests that govern the domestic game and conspire against the success of the national team. His stature is such that nobody in the game should disregard his warning.

Gooch, soon to complete 20 years in Test cricket, was outraged this week by the news that Andrew Symonds, of Queensland, who was born in Birmingham but emigrated to Australia before he could walk or talk, had signed to play a season with Gloucestershire, taking advantage of his birth qualification, yet expressed no intention of seeking a Test career outside Australia.

Symonds's plans may yet be scuppered by adverse publicity and official disfavour, but Gooch sees the move as confirmation that many counties continue to plough a cynical and selfish path with no regard for the greater good or improvement off English standards. He cites other cases, such as Duncan Spencer, the West Australian, playing for Kent, as examples of a trend that other countries, notably Australia, would never tolerate.

"We keep shooting ourselves in the foot," Gooch said.



Gooch: call for action

"Our cricket is not strong. We are struggling to compete at Test level. Yet our system continues to allow soldiers of fortune to come and develop their game at our expense. I have nothing against Symonds, and he obviously has talent, but if he is allowed to play in our championship as an Englishman it will be disgraceful — a sick joke. I spoke on the phone to Allan Border about it and his reaction was that something must be very wrong with our system.

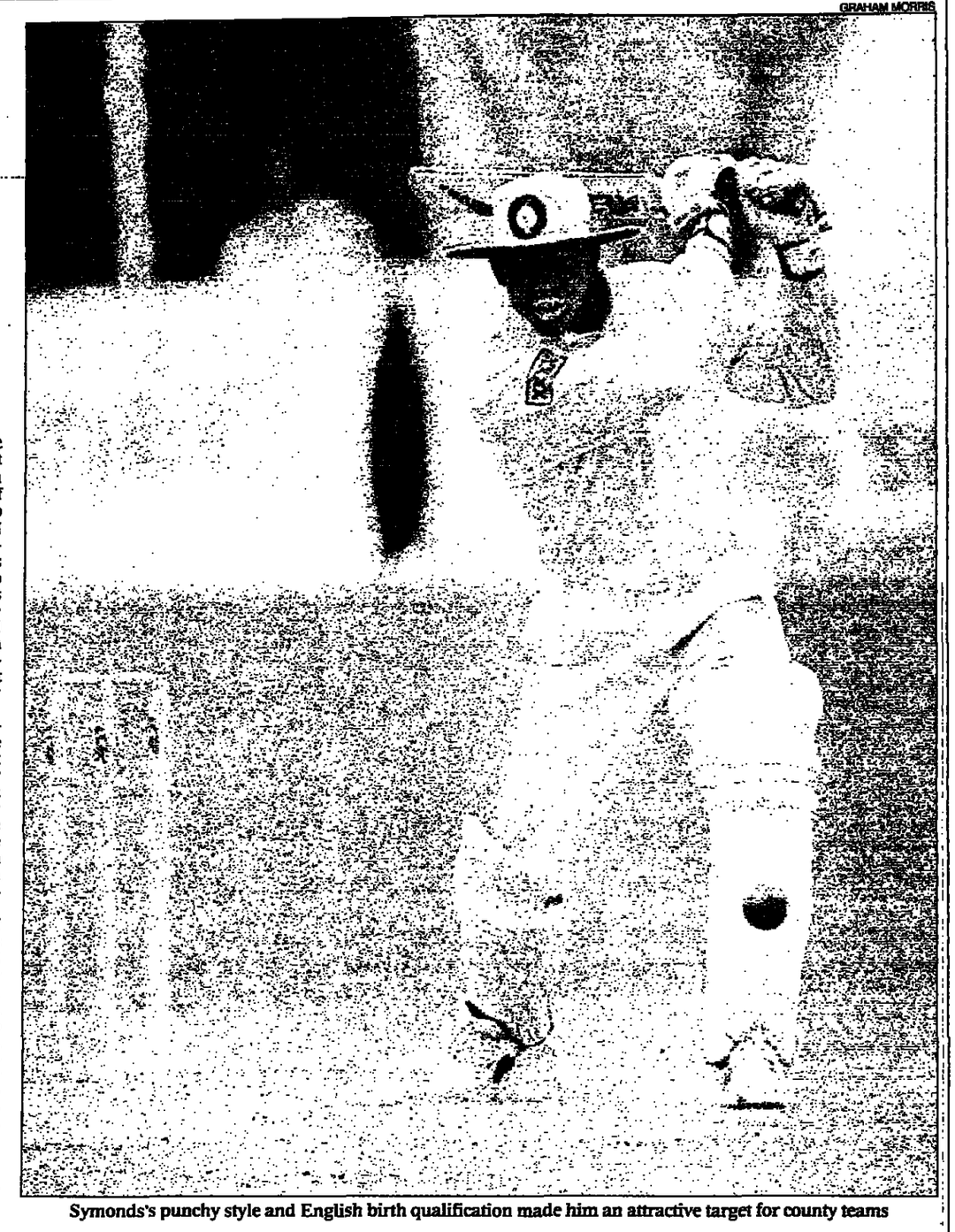
"I can see why Gloucestershire would want him and the sad thing is that if they had not tried to sign him, some other county would have done. But things like this devalue our whole system. All that will be achieved is that he will be taught how to play in foreign conditions, making him a more rounded talent for Australia to exploit.

"When I was captain of England, I expressed fears about this through official channels. I was also openly against choosing Martin McCague for an England A tour while he could still opt to play for Australia. I think everyone in our game, possibly bar one overseas player per club, should want to be English in the way they live their lives as well as in where they play their cricket.

"I can see there might be legal and contractual problems to any legislation, but if what it needs to impose a singleness of purpose is for the counties to prove their integrity and come to an agreement among themselves against such unhelpful signings, then that is what must be done."

Gooch's passion and sincerity cannot be doubted. As England captain, he once made an official request, sadly refused, for the national anthem to be played prior to every home Test. On Saturday, here in Melbourne, he will make his 115th Test appearance in his 42nd year. The sheer length of his service is remarkable, but no more so than the obsessive dedication to fitness that makes him run up and down hotel stairwells soon after dawn or, as he did this week, practise sprinting singles in a car park after fielding for five hours in temperatures of 100°F. He does it because the honour still means as much to him as it did back in 1975.

GRAHAM MORRIS



Symonds's punchy style and English birth qualification made him an attractive target for county teams

"To play for your country, you need more than a desire to do well for yourself, you need a patriotic commitment," he said. "I am very proud to be English and the reason I am still playing is because that knot in the stomach when I walk out to bat in a Test match is still there every time.

"I would like to think everyone who played for England felt the same pride, but sometimes I wonder. It sits uneasily with me that we have no common bond in our game and it goes right through to club cricket, where you can find teams with four or five foreigners taking places that English guys should have.

"I think all of us involved with English cricket have to ask ourselves what we are working towards. The unanimous answer ought to be a strong England team, yet we continue to allow things that set us back against the rest of the world."

☐ Darren Gough, the Yorkshire fast bowler, is desperate to play in the second Test, which is due to begin in Melbourne on Saturday, but has to convince himself and the selectors that a hamstring injury will not flare up again. "At the moment, I'm hopeful," he said yesterday. "But I won't make myself available unless I am 100 per cent."

Wessels happy to depart

Former South Africa captain explains his decision to bow out of international arena

KEPLER WESSELS, who announced his retirement from international cricket on Tuesday, said yesterday that the decision had not been difficult. "It's not a wrench at all," he said. "I think it's only a wrench if you still have unfulfilled dreams, but I have achieved all that I wanted to and I have a lot of fond memories, so it's not a problem.

"I have been considering retirement for a long time and I just feel that my motivation for international cricket on a full-time basis just isn't there any more. I am still playing well for Eastern Province and I always wanted to go out on top."

A knee injury which has plagued him for several years kept Wessels out of the first Test of the present series against New Zealand. But he was certain to be included in the side for the second Test, which is due to start on Monday, had he made himself available. "The selectors would have liked me to play, but they understand how I feel," he said.

During his long international career, Wessels represented Australia in 24 Tests and then captained South Africa in 16 matches after the ending of years of sporting isolation caused by apartheid.

"The high spots of my Australia days would have to be my debut against England [he scored 162] and a big hundred I made against the West Indies when we beat them in Sydney," he said. "Back home, the highlight has obviously been captaining South Africa, culminating in the Test win at Lord's last July."

Wessels was quick to reject the suggestion that he might be tempted to return. "Maybe if I was 27 I would think about it, but not at 37."

☐ Essex have made three additions to their staff for 1995 — Nick Derbyshire, a former Lancashire player, Courtney Ricketts, an all-rounder who has experience with Sussex and Gloucestershire, and Andrew Hibbert, a former Essex junior batsman.

☐ Tight security was imposed in Dhaka yesterday at the start of a four-nation tournament that will coincide with anti-Government protests.

The tournament, hosted by Bangladesh, will also involve A teams from India, Sri Lanka and Pakistan, who will field six Test players, including Ramiz Raja, as captain.

England strike rich vein

BY SIMON WILDE

IF ENGLAND ever again produce a winning cricket team, the county chairmen will be able to dine out with Cedric Brown, the chief executive of British Gas, without so much as a second glance at the price list.

The gate receipts for six Test matches last summer — which saw New Zealand beaten 1-0 and South Africa held to a 1-1 draw — reaped more than £7.6 million, more than £500,000 up on the previous summer, when Australia won 4-1.

When the four one-day internationals are taken into account, England gates totalled £9,675,174, easily a record. The figure was helped by two of the Tests being staged at the most lucrative venue, Lord's. The New Zealand game there realised more than £1.5 million, the South Africa game — in which England were routed by 356 runs in four days — a grand record of £2.2 million.

Lord's was also the venue for the one-day international with New Zealand in May which was abandoned because of rain, but takings still amounted to £750,000.

The Test and County Cricket Board is hoping that England gates for next season, when West Indies are the visitors, will top £10 million for the first time. Six Test matches and three one-day internationals are scheduled.

Gloucestershire are awaiting discussions between Jack Russell, the captain next year, and Courtney Walsh, his predecessor, in the next few days before choosing their overseas professional for 1995. The club considered several options at a committee meeting on Tuesday evening, but Walsh, who will return to the county in 1996 after touring with West Indies next summer, has yet to be consulted about a final choice.

Walsh recommended two Indian Test players, Vinod Kambli, a batsman, and Jawagal Srinath, a bowler, but the club is also considering Muhammed Akram, a young Pakistani fast bowler who played with success for the second XI in 1994, and experienced Australians who would not be required by either their national or A teams.

Walsh has been out of contact recently because of his commitments with West Indies. Having returned from a tour of India, he is in Barbados helping to choose the team to visit New Zealand early next year.

Life in the shadows with Britain's secret champion

David Powell finds Lee Taylor, the world's best roller skater, still starved of recognition

A small hall, less than 100 spectators, one reporter and a raffle to supplement the takings: just another local amateur Christmas show, or so you would have thought. Had I come to the right place? Was this where Lee Taylor, world champion, was appearing?

There was not a poster to be seen in the mile walk from Shildon station to Sunnydale Leisure Centre, nothing to confirm that the man whom his admirers say skates as elegantly John Curry used to was coming to entertain. No indication whatever that Taylor, in his first exhibition close to home since winning the world title, was appearing in the local Caprice club's Christmas production.

Such is the world of roller skating. Most people lose interest after their first pair of kiddies' skates. The sport of roller skating receives no television and no sponsorship. Becoming Britain's first men's world champion at artistic roller skating has not changed Taylor's life. He is still studying architecture full-time at Newcastle University, still relying on his mother's cleaning job to help with his expenses.

Artistic roller skating is ice skating on wheels. Points are awarded for artistic impression and technical merit. There are three categories: figure skating, free skating (short and long programme) and a combination of the two. Taylor, at 21, is the combined world champion, his discipline comprising compulsory figures, short programme (two minutes) and long programme (four minutes). The short free skating programme is made up of set elements of jumps, spins and steps. In the long programme, the skater has freedom of choice.

Taylor's victory in the world championships, in Salsomaggiore, Italy, was not expected — "I would have been happy with third," he said — and the start he had could hardly have been worse. The day before he was due to leave for Italy, he snapped one of his skates and had to borrow his sister's pair.

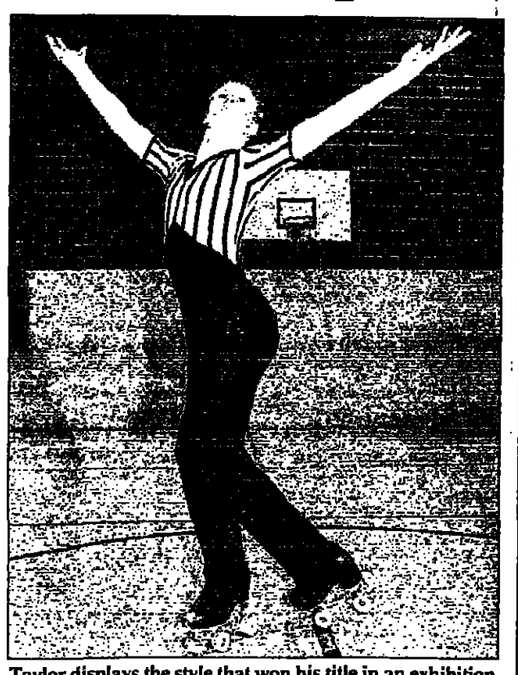
New skates take time to adjust, but, because sister Kay's were similar to his, Taylor needed only two days and was comfortable in them by the time his competition started.

Two months on and with Taylor staging a series of demonstrations to promote the sport, Kay is still waiting for her skates to be returned. "Since I came back from the world championships, I have been doing these exhibitions and I have not had time to adjust to a new pair," Taylor said.

The factors working against Taylor did not end there. Shildon, ten miles from his home in Darlington, and where most of his practice is done, does not have an international size floor, not even close. There is one at nearby Newton Aycliffe, but hire charges are more expensive and, given the skater's outgoings — Taylor even had to pay £200 towards his costs to compete in the world championships — money is tight. The best rink in Britain — Roller World at Colchester — is not ideally positioned for our world champion.

Ian Watkins, Taylor's coach, likens his skater to Curry because he is "athletic, artistic and moves effortlessly". Had Taylor chosen ice skating and been equally successful, he would have received more than the split-second coverage he was given on the BBC's *Sports Review of the Year* in the section featuring Britain's minority sports world champions.

"Ice skating would be nice, with all those incentives and shows, the professional circuit as well," he said. "I have been a few times, but I could never get the hang of it." On rollers, though, he is as smooth as ice.



Taylor displays the style that won his title in an exhibition at Shildon Leisure Centre. Photograph: Carl Rutherford

RADIO CHOICE

The fun of the reign in Spain

For a Son. *Radio 4, 2.00pm.*

By radio standards, Carey Harrison's audacious comedy is really spectacular. Happily, the scenery does not get in the way of the actors. Exquisitely fashioned though the palaces and farmyards and tilt grounds and battlefields are, they are the servants of Harrison's plot, not its masters. And what a plot it is on which he has threaded his king and queen, prince and princess, vizier, mulateer, jousting knight and royal offspring who is half-man, and half-donkey! Here are all the fun and games that 11th-century Spain probably never knew — and all the skulduggery that it probably *did* know. In Cherry Cookson, *For a Son* gets the director it so richly deserves.

Arthur Smith on the Floor. *Radio 5 Live, 8.05pm.*

Four professional comedians and a lot of would-be comedians take part in this for-and-against debate about Christmas at the London School of Economics. I say for-and-against, but in truth, of the 200 undergraduates taking part, only two have any affection for the season others call the season of good will. Characteristic of the rest are sentiments such as: anyone who celebrates Christmas should be lined up and shot; it is a shame religion has crept into Christmas; Christmas is not as good as it used to be because all the best films have already been on television. Arthur Smith, an alternative comedian, chairs the debate. For some reason, he cannot get away from booze.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Bruno Brookes **6.30** Steve Wright **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lynn Parsons, including at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat **2.00** Mark Goodier **4.00** Nicky Campbell with Drivetime, including at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Soundbite: Danny Kelly looks at Christas records **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00-4.00am** Claire Sturgess

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy with the Early Show **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** For Better or for Worse: starring Su Pollard and Gorden Kaye **8.00** Country Club: presented by Michelle Wright **9.00** Paul Jones presents a mixture of vintage rhythm and blues and the best of the recent releases **9.45** Gospel Train: Dulcie Dixon presents Bryan Powell and a community choir at the Abundant Life Christian Centre, Bradford **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **8.35** The Magazine, with Chris Choi, including at **9.40** Film Review; **10.35** Euronews; **11.00** Gut Reaction **12.00** Midday with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, with Sybil Ruscoe **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, including at **7.20** the day's sport in full **7.35** Women on Top **8.05** Arthur Smith on the Floor: See Choice **9.05** SportsAmerica **10.05** News Talk, with Paul Reynolds **11.00** Night Extra, including at **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** Night Moves, with Steve Sampson **2.05** Up All Night, with Richard Dellyn

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazine **8.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** *The Thirteen Clocks* **7.30** Network UK **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Good Books **8.30** John Peel **9.00** News **9.05** Business **9.15** From Our Own Correspondent **9.30** Farming World **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Assignment **10.30** It's a Funny Old World **11.00** Newsdesk **11.15** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack **12.48** Sport **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** *The Thirteen Clocks* **2.45** The Learning World **3.00** News **3.15** The Greenfield Collection **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** Business **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Kaleidoskop **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.05** Business **10.15** Network UK **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** It's a Funny Old World **12.00** News **12.15am** Music Review **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** On the Move **1.45** Global Concerns **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** The Woman in Black **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Focus on Faith **4.00** Newsdesk

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic Reports, with Sarah Ward **7.00** The Travel Guide: Robert Booth reports from Crete **8.00** Evening Concert **10.00** Michael Meppin **1.00am** Robert Booth

VIRGIN

6.00am Paul Coyte **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Paul Coyte **11.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Janey Lee Grace

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather **7.00 On Air:** Mendelssohn, arr W.T. Best (War March of the Priests); Anon (Cypriot Advent antiphon: O rex virtutem gloria); Praetorius (Nun komm der Heiden Heiland); Debussy (Images, Book II); **8.40** *Quartet Collection*: Haydn (String Quartet in E flat)

9.00 Composers of the Week: Moeran and Warlock. Warlock (Passing By); Moeran (Fantasy Quartet); Warlock (The First Mercy; The Fox); Moeran (Violin Concerto); Warlock (Piggesnie)

10.00 Musical Encounters, from Glasgow with Mary Miller. **10.20** *Artist of the Week:* John Wallace, trumpet, plays Wagner (Kaisermarsch); **10.35** Mozart (Piano Concerto No 25 in C, K503); George Anthell (Trumpet Sonata); **11.20** Massenet (Suite, Cendrillon); Petr Eben (Red Window, Windows, after March Chagall); Ravel (Violin Sonata)

12.00 Ensemble: Mozart. Flute Quartet in D, K285 (Michelle Lee; Members of the Alberni Quartet); Sonata in D, K576 (Allan Schiller, piano); String Quartet in E flat, K428 (Maggini Quartet) (r)

1.00pm Opera Matinée: Der Ring des Nibelungen. The Bayreuth Festival Orchestra under James Levine performs Act 1 of *Siegfried*, the third instalment of Wagner's epic cycle. Sung in German. With Wolfgang Schmidt in the title role and Deborah Polaski as Brünnhilde; **2.30** The Bayreuth Experience: During intervals in the *Ring*, four visitors to this year's Bayreuth Festival discuss what it was like for them, beginning with Lord Gowrie, chairman of the Arts Council; **2.40** Act 2; **4.05** The Bayreuth Experience: The conductor David Parry; **4.15** Act 3

6.00 The Music Machine: Byte the Music. Mike Edwards explores how much of a live recording is really live

6.15 In Tune: David Gwen Norris with a seasonal edition from Birmingham, including Busoni (Sonatina No 4, in diem Nativitatis Christi); **7.00** Purcell (Behold I Bring Glad Tidings)

7.30 A Bach Evening: Bach (Orchestral Suite No 3 in D, BWV 1068; Cantata No 169: Gott soll allein mein Herze haben); **8.20** Interval: Joe Dunlop reads extracts from *A General History of Music*, written by Dr Charles Burney; **8.30** Bach (Concerto in D minor for two violins, BWV 1043; Orchestral Suite No 4 in D, BWV 1069)

9.15 Utopia and Other Places: Third extract from the autobiography of Richard Eyre

9.35 A Serenade and a Sonata: Henze (Serenade for solo cello); Elliott Carter (Cello Sonata) (r)

10.15 Strange Arrangment: The composer, pianist and bandleader Carla Bley (r)

10.45 Night Waves: Michèle Roberts explores the history and practice of making stained glass windows

11.30-12.30am Voices, with Iain Burnside

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze: Rabbi Hugo Gryn, *Times* columnist Janet Daley, Edward Pearce and Dr David Starkey

10.00-10.30 News; No Commitments (FM only), by Simon Brett. Rosemary Leach and Nicola Pagett star in *Seasonal Adjustment*

10.00 Daily Service (LW only) **10.15 Children's Radio 4** (LW only): Charlotte's Web, by E.B White. Read by William Hootkins (4/7)

10.30 Woman's Hour: Jenni Murray talks to the neuroscientist Dr Susan Greenfield. Incl **11.00 News**

11.30 From Our Own Correspondent

12.00 News; You and Yours, with Tasneem Siddiqi

12.25pm The Year in Question: Brian Hayes referees the semi-final of the knockout news quiz between GMTV and Channel 4's *A Week in Politics* **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; For a Son: See Choice

3.00 Anderson Country, with Gerry Anderson

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: The world's largest collection of European illustrations

4.45 Short Story: A Spirit Elopement. An amiable ghost story by Clotilde Graves

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 Harry Hill's Fruit Corner: Dog and Bone. Last in the series, with Ronnie Corbett

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 The Canteen Ladies: Sarah Taylor meets Babs, Jane, Mary, Rita, Sharon and Trish, the women who feed the staff of a big Sheffield supermarket

8.00 Rhubarb and Custard: Robert Robinson investigates the rise and rise of ad-lib radio

8.45 Medical Notes: Michael Oliver on the life and death of Franz Liszt

9.00 Does He Take Sugar? Judy Graham presents the programme for listeners with disabilities

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Brazzaville Beach, by William Boyd (9/10)

11.00 Stephen King's Salem's Lot: Second in a seven-part dramatisation by Gregory Evans of the classic vampire story. With Stuart Milligan, Danny Kanaber and Peter Yapp

11.30-12.00 Just a Part of the Furniture (FM only): In the last of the series, Clare Jenkins looks at the role of the table in our lives (r)

11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)

12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW

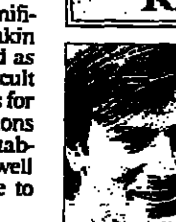
RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Maxey

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Flash, bang, wallop, the end of the lines

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

Given the spiralling complexity of its plot, there was always a possibility that **Between the Lines** (BBC 1) was going to disappear in a puff of smoke one day. In the event, it went out with several puffs of smoke, a similar number of loud bangs and leaving enough loose ends to tie up a small town's Christmas presents.

Had Tony and Harry really copped it in the explosive East Anglian dénouement, *Apocalypse Now* meets the River Stour? Did John Deakin really understand what was going on, or was he making it up as he went along like the rest of us? And what on earth had persuaded Sylvestra Le Touzel that full-frontal nudity could be justified by a script that allowed her Action Man boyfriend to sleep in his underpants?

Alas, the answer to these and many other questions (did Deakin really have matching handkerchiefs for all his ties?) will never be known. Last night's episode was the last. No further series are planned. Appropriately, it was Deakin who put his finger on the problem this series has laboured under since our now less than dynamic trio were chucked out of the safe story-lines of the Complaints Investigation Bureau. "My rule in life," he told the man from MI6, "is to make sure the fewest people know the absolute minimum." His scriptwriters did not let him down.

The cause of death of the series was acronym overdose. A script was not a script unless it included MI5 (both on and off-side factions), MI6, the FBI, CIB, Amip and Ensis. It was therefore no surprise that Pressman, the nice man at MI5 who wanted to turn Ulster into a bloodbath, turned out to be a director of the ENO and a fan of the RSC.

But if it's TTFN (and almost certainly TTFE) to *Between the Lines*, there are elements I shall miss. Tony Doyle was magnificently scheming as John Deakin and Tom Georgeson rock solid as Harry, especially in the difficult days before Harry met Ellie. As for Neil Pearson, earlier incarnations of Tony Clark have already established him as a fine serious, as well as comic, actor. Now it's time to move on.

Perhaps to Hollywood. Or then again, perhaps not if he's been watching the exquisite torture that is **Hollywood Kids** (ITV). Last night's episode should have been compulsory for any parent looking forward to Christmas with something less than relish. Their offspring would seem positively angelic compared with the monsters on parade in Beverly Hills.

Aware (but still perhaps not sufficiently aware) that many of these Macauley Caulkin wannabes would not be familiar to a British audience, David Green and his team eased their exhausted editing machine down a gear or two. The tongue-tied Anna Paquin, Oscar-winning star of *The Piano*, got a whole three minutes. Long enough for her to say "I don't know" several times and long enough for Glenn Close icily to welcome her to grown-up Hollywood: "I'm sure she had no concept of what she just did — she's never done anything before." And may never do anything again that matches up to winning an Oscar at the age of nine, according to the actress Rosie O'Donnell: "I think her life is ruined right now."

A singer called Jessica James, at 12 years old a sawn-off hybrid of Barbra Streisand and Shirley Bassey, got five minutes. Long enough for her to introduce us to her ambitious father — "it really doesn't matter which one of us makes the money" — and to her manager: "This man is going to make me millions, billions, trillions." Is that dollars or toys? At times, the preferred currency seemed unclear.

The subject matter of the series inevitably means there is a fine line between ghastly fascination and yuk. I've had enough. *Child Stars* was a damn close call. But it was rescued by the former child stars who, in the series' hallmark style, knocked down the dream of endless fame and fortune as fast as their seven-year-old successors set it up. Some, such as Henry Winkler, had made the transition to showbiz adulthood successfully. Others like Danny Bonaduce, Danny from *The Partridge Family* had not. What fills the space after the fame has gone, the singing star turned waiter was asked? "Oh, drugs and cars and girls. Then girls on drugs in cars. Even cars on drugs with girls." You just can't keep a young pro down.

The programme took a long time to get to the ruthless exploitation that Hollywood is capable of, but it got there with Gary Coleman, the former child star of *Diff'rent Strokes*. It was another story that probably required more explanation for British viewers, but the stomach-turning injustices were readily apparent. "Not only did they take advantage of a kid with no kidneys," said the man from the child star support group, "they took advantage of a black kid and they took advantage of a kid who's a midget." Yuk. I had had enough.

A similar feeling of over-sufficiency filled me after **Rhodes around Christmas** (BBC 2). Gary Rhodes is an engaging fellow and a brilliant cook, but this "Nigel Kennedy of the kitchen" persona that he increasingly adopts is becoming a tad wearying. Last night he was indulged to the point of ... *indigestion*? A new sports car to drive around in, a Docklands flat to cook in and a duet with Gary Glitter all proved too rich a festive pud for me. True, the dishes Rhodes did find time to prepare looked great. But then if we all spent Christmas surrounded by piles of pre-chopped vegetables and frangipane-I-made-earlier, I expect ours would, too.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (99735)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News from Belfast (29796629)

9.05 Bucky O'Hare (r) (8110464) **9.30 Tom Alone.** Children's drama (r) (72358)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (9795822) **10.05 Playdays** (s) (5087025)

10.30 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekday family magazine presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen (s) (74342)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2739303) **12.05pm Pebble Mill.** Alan Titchmarsh presents the final of *A Song for Christmas* (s) (6039990) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (14297464)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (93990)

1.30 Neighbours. Pam is torn between two lovers; and Gaby's job interview doesn't go as planned. (Ceefax) (s) (35470006)

1.50 The Great British Quiz. Two teams battle for a place in the final (s) (35474822)

2.15 FILM: Robin Hood (1973). Disney's animated version of the tale of the legendary outlaw. Includes the voices of Peter Ustinov and Terry-Thomas. Directed by Wolfgang Reigherman. (Teletext) (1437071)

3.40 Cartoon (4743919) **3.50 Brum** (s) (2792025) **4.05 The Animals of Farthing Wood.** Last in the animated series (r). (Ceefax) (s) (4976280) **4.30 Pirates** (s) (8000193)

4.55 Newsround (4691822) **5.05 Blue Peter.** A special festive edition (7346939)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (249754)

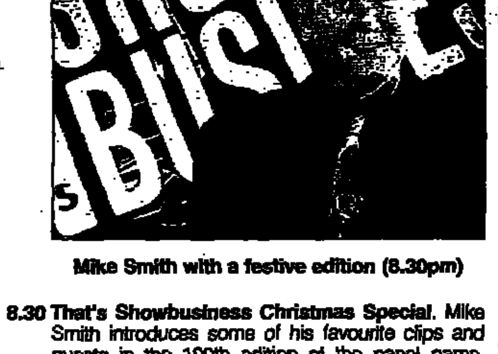
6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (445)

6.30 Regional news magazines (975)

7.00 Top of the Pops (Ceefax) (s) (5445)

7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (209)

8.00 CHOICE **Children's Hospital.** (Ceefax) (4193)



Mike Smith with a festive edition (8.30pm)

8.30 That's Showbusiness Christmas Special. Mike Smith introduces some of his favourite clips and guests in the 100th edition of the panel game. (Ceefax) (s) (9700)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (6396)

9.30 Crocodile Shoes: The End. The last episode of the drama serial starring Jimmy Nail as a northern factory worker with dreams of country and western fame. (Ceefax) (s) (380735)

10.20 Frankenstein — The True Story. Concluding Mary Shelley's classic horror story. (Ceefax) (499193) **Northern Ireland:** The Back Page 10.45 Frankenstein — The True Story 12.20am Glad Tidings 12.30-2.15 FILM: Young Frankenstein; **Wales:** The Slate 10.50 Frankenstein — The True Story 12.25am-2.10 FILM: Young Frankenstein

11.55 FILM: Young Frankenstein (1974, b/w). Spoof horror starring Gene Wilder as Dr Frankenstein who travels to Transylvania to receive a family legacy. Directed by Mel Brooks. (Ceefax) (343735)

1.40am Weather (3616526). Ends at **1.45**

BBC2

7.00am Tales of the Tooth Fairies (r) (4976377) **7.05 The Family Ness** (r) (4975648) **7.10 Toxic Crusaders** (r) (2387071) **7.35 Growing Up Wild** (r) (s) (8150358)

8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax and signing) (9308006) **8.15 Thunderbirds** (r). (Ceefax) (5796025)

9.05 FILM: Parade (1974). The season of Jacques Tati's films continues with this, his last (1078803)

10.30 FILM: The Black Stallion (1979) starring Mickey Rooney. Film adaptation of Walter Farley's classic children's tale, directed by Carroll Ballard. (Ceefax) (58194193)

12.25pm A Child's Christmas in Wales. Dylan Thomas's prose evokes Christmas between the wars (s) (6184822) **Wales** (to 1.00): Dad's Army

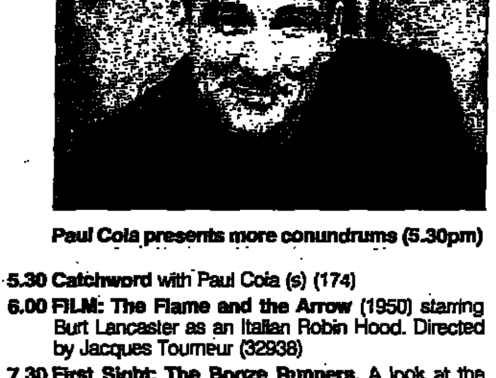
12.50 The Secret Gardens. Brook Cottage in Oxfordshire (20977919) **1.00 Gordon T Gopher** (r) (44961280)

1.10 FILM: The Band Wagon (1953). Fred Astaire and Jack Buchanan kick up a storm in this musical. Directed by Vincent Minnelli (99972822)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather; **The Beaver — Master Builder of the Animal World** (8763735) **3.50 News** (Ceefax) and weather (4730445)

4.00 Today's the Day. Semi-final (938)

4.30 The Food and Drink Christmas Quiz (r). (Ceefax) (s) (822) **5.00 Rhodes around Christmas** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6551)



Paul Coia presents more conundrums (5.30pm)

5.30 Catchword with Paul Coia (s) (174)

6.00 FILM: The Flame and the Arrow (1950) starring Burt Lancaster as an Italian Robin Hood. Directed by Jacques Tourneur (32938)

7.30 First Sight: The Booze Runners. A look at the trade in illegal alcohol (551) **Wales:** Hi-De-Hi; **East** Matter of Fact; **Midlands:** Midlands Report; **South:** Southern Eye; **South-west:** Close-Up; **West:** Close-Up West

8.00 CHOICE **Wildlife Showcase. Mountains of the Thunderer.** (Ceefax) (s) (2735)

8.30 Top Gear. Includes a report on the team who are driving 1600 miles across the outback (s) (8342)

9.00 The X Files. Two FBI agents investigate cases of the paranormal. (Ceefax) (s) (323209)

9.45 CHOICE **The Travel Show Christmas Special** (s) (656280)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (122193)

11.15 FILM: True Confessions (1981). Robert De Niro stars as a politically ambitious priest whose brother (Robert Duvall) is a tough policeman. They take their relationship for granted until a murder comes between them. Directed by Ulu Grosbard (s) (101551) **1.00am Weather** (6661255)

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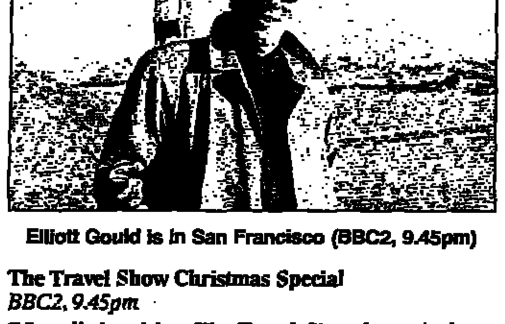
CHOICE

Witness: The Morehouse Men
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, was founded by white missionaries after the American Civil War to train former slaves. Alumni include Martin Luther King, the film-maker Spike Lee and the athlete Ed Moses. The regime is strict. Students arriving at the start of a new year soon get the message: "You ain't here to play games." Secret ceremonies lasting into the small hours are designed to promote brotherhood and pride. The programme follows the college through an eventful year, marked by allegations of embezzlement against the students' union president and a row over whether a fiery black minister should be allowed to preach on campus. Meanwhile, an untypical student from the wrong side of the tracks struggles to keep pace with his more privileged colleagues.

Wildlife Showcase: Mountains of the Thunderer
BBC2, 8.00pm

The mountains are the Andes of South America and the thunderer the local name for the largest flying bird in the world. This is the condor, a vulture with a 10ft wing span, striking black and white plumage and a sure nose for a tasty meal. At least it eats only dead meat, thus sparing us footage beloved of wildlife film-makers in which predators swoop on their prey and proceed to rip it bloodily apart. Instead we focus on the condor's reproductive habits, though these can hardly be called prolific. Chicks arrive at the rate of only one every two years and are not mature until they reach the age of six. But since condors can live for more than 60 years, there is obviously no hurry. This is the last film in an outstanding series.



Elliott Gould is in San Francisco (BBC2, 9.45pm)

The Travel Show Christmas Special
BBC2, 9.45pm

What distinguishes *The Travel Show* from rivals on BBC1 and ITV is that it is not afraid to say if the beaches are dirty and the hotels unfinished. But this is the festive season and an excuse to lower the critical guard. The tone is set when instead of fronting the programme from Manchester airport, Penny Junor is among the health spas and vineyards of the Napa Valley in California. Filmland bulks large. Elliott Gould looks for the real San Francisco and bumps into Francis Ford Coppola while Laurie Pike walks the streets of Hollywood in search of the stars and their homes. Elsewhere, the National Lottery host, Gordon Kennedy, heads for the ski slopes and Alison Goldie mingles with the octogenarians of Palm Springs.

Children's Hospital
BBC1, 8.00pm

The troubles of two small boys feature in the final programme of a series which has often been as much about the agonies of parents as the suffering of their offspring. The Whysall household is devastated when six-year-old Spike is taken to intensive care after a car accident. He has a badly broken leg and a head injury that could mean permanent brain damage. At the same time Michael Skinner, a chirpy five-year-old, is back in hospital for more operations to stretch his throat and ease his eating difficulty. The staff, meanwhile, are not looking forward to the disruption of building work as the hospital embarks on one of its biggest expansions.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (6813396) **9.25 The New Adventures of He-Man** (r) (8125396) **9.50 James Bond Junior** (r) (1944532) **10.15 Bananas in Pyjamas** (4139700)

10.20 ITN News headlines (7389223) **10.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8739764)

10.30 FILM: Dance till Dawn (1989). Teen comedy following the agony and ecstasy of the senior prom. With Alyssa Milano and Brian Bloom. Directed by Paul Schnieder (15761613) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6339367)

12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (8997209) **12.55 Emmerdale** (r). (Teletext) (8892700) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (53366716) **1.55 Gardeners' Diary** (80807445)

2.25 A Country Practice (s) (92004025) **2.50 The Young Doctors** (8935367)

3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (6465025) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6464396)

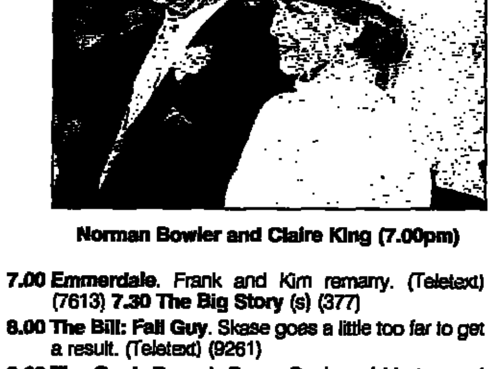
3.30 FILM: The Undefeated (1969) starring John Wayne and Rock Hudson. After the Civil War a Union colonel and his adopted Indian son lead a herd of 3,000 horses into Mexico; however, they run into an exodus of Confederates heading the same way. Directed by Andrew V. McLaglen (13561464)

5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (842990)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewers' opinions (291358)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (613)

6.30 London Tonight with Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster. (Teletext) (193)



Norman Bowler and Claire King (7.00pm)

7.00 Emmerdale. Frank and Kim remarry. (Teletext) (7613) **7.30 The Big Story** (s) (377)

8.00 The Bill: Fall Guy. Skase goes a little too far to get a result. (Teletext) (9261)

8.30 The Cook Report. Roger Cook and his team of investigators make life uncomfortable for more shady characters (8396)

9.00 Finney starring David Morrissey and John McArdle. In the final part of the drama, Finney disowns Tom and confronts the dark secrets from the past which have haunted him all his life. (Teletext) (s) (8629)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (54484)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (516613)

10.40 Revelations. Drama following the fortunes of a bishop and his family (s) (898613)

11.10 Big City with Paul Ross and Carolyn Marshall (s) (244602)

11.40 World Cup Ski Extra from St Anton in Austria (299174)

12.10am The Beat (r) (s) (2895304)

1.10 The Little Picture Show (r) (s) (7165491)

2.10 The Album Show (r) (s) (5905217)

3.10 America's Top Ten (r) (s) (70140897)

3.40 Quiz Night with Stuart Hall (66854236)

4.10 Donahue. Burt Reynolds talks about his off/on divorce and his past relationships with other leading ladies (5752287)

5.00 Videofashion (r) (32588)

5.30 ITN Morning News (22052). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Terrytoons (7088629)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (10613)

9.00 Pugwall (r) (68613) **9.30 Spacecats** (r) (98396)

10.00 Prostars (r) (5071464) **10.25 Batman** (Teletext) (1735025) **10.50 The Adventures of Super Mario Brothers** (r) (9313464)

11.05 Tintin (r) (9266193) **11.30 Kelly** (r) (46071)

12.00 If Wishes Were Horses (r) (s) (51377)

12.30pm Sesame Street with actor Bill Irwin (48290)

1.30 Meerkats. Cartoon (r) (91483)

2.00 FILM: Night and Day (1946). Hollywood-style biopic of songwriter Cole Porter played by Cary Grant. With Alexis Smith and Monty Woolley. Directed by Michael Curtiz (77206241)

4.20 What a Hog. Norwegian cartoon (5892648)

4.30 Fifteen to One (Teletext) (s) (990)

5.00 Ricki Lake. The American chat show host meets two men who refuse to have anything to do with Christmas, much to the dismay of their wives and children. (Teletext) (s) (5367822)

5.50 Terrytoons (214209)

6.00 Home Improvement. Comedy series about an American DIY television personality (r). (Teletext) (s) (483)

6.30 Roseanne (r). (Teletext) (s) (735)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (767667)

7.50 Black Christmas: Shooting Stars with Josette Simon (s) (914377)

8.00 Beat that Einstein. In the final show of the current series, Richard Vranch challenges the team to recover a piano stranded in the middle of a lake. (Teletext) (s) (7803)

8.30 Spirit of Trees. This week Dick Warner visits an Irish "money tree" and joins a group of contemporary tree-worshippers in Glastonbury. (Teletext) (s) (6938)

9.00 CHOICE **Black Christmas: Witness — The Morehouse Men.** (Teletext) (6071)

10.00 A Night on Mount Edna. In December 1990 the housewife and superstar Edna Everage threw open her exclusive Swiss chalet for a celebrity party. Guests included Julio Iglesias, Gina Lollobrigida, Charlton Heston and Mel Gibson (r). (Teletext) (2920303)

11.05 Black Christmas: Get Up, Stand Up. Last in the current series of the fast-moving comedy sketch show with Malcolm Frederick, Chris Tummings and Angie Le Mar (s) (472303)

11.35 Black Christmas: Shooting Stars with saxophonist Steve Williamson (s) (442464)



Francesca Annis, Kyle MacLachlan (11.40pm)

11.40 FILM: Dune (1984). Kyle MacLachlan, Francesca Annis and Sting star in David Lynch's extraordinary science-fiction epic based on the cult novel by Frank Herbert (s) (49275209)

2.15am FILM: The Ghost Train (1941, b/w) starring Arthur Askey as a scatter-brain who tackles an espionage ring operating under the guise of a haunted railway line. Directed by Walter Forde (4663120). Ends at **3.40**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: **9.50am** C.O.P.S (1944532) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (4139700) **10.30** Ride a Wild Pony (57769990) **12.10pm-12.20** Warner Cartoon (1653822) **1.55** The Young Doctors (35468261) **2.20** An Invitation to Remember (92096006) **2.50-3.20** Take the High Road (8935367) **3.30** The Apple Dumpling Gang Rides Again (345396) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (4209268) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (984087) **10.40** Marquee (898613) **11.10** The Equalizer (752483) **12.10am** Obsessed (731526) **2.00** Top Ten (94435) **2.30** Girl in the Headlines (854033) **4.05** Jobfinder (49991694) **4.35-5.30** Cue the Music

CENTRAL

As London except: **9.50** C.O.P.S (1944532) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (4139700) **1.55** A Country Practice (35468261) **2.20** Survival (92096006) **2.50-3.20** Take the High Road (8935367) **3.30** The Apple Dumpling Gang Rides Again (345396) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (4209268) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (984087) **11.10** B L Stryker (868209) **1.00am-1.10** Profile (8658781) **3.10** Quiz Night (70140897) **3.40-5.20** Jobfinder (112630)

GRANADA

As London except: **9.50** C.O.P.S (1944532) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (4139700) **10.30-12.20** Dance till Dawn (15761613) **12.55** Shortland Street (8892700) **1.25** Home and Away (53366716) **1.55** Father Dowling (2090396) **2.50-3.20** Emmerdale (8935367) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (4209268) **6.25** Granada Tonight Special (984087) **7.00-7.30** Emmerdale (7613) **11.10** Prisoner Cell Block H (752483) **12.10am** Obsessed (731526) **2.00** America's Top Ten (94435) **2.30** Girl in the Headlines (854033) **4.05** Jobfinder

HTV WEST

As London except: **9.50** C.O.P.S (1944532) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (4139700) **1.55** Stuntmasters (80807445) **2.25** Gardening Time (92095377) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (8436280) **3.30** The Apple Dumpling Gang Rides Again (345396) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (4209268) **5.55** Home and Away (245938) **6.25-7.00** HTV News (984087) **10.40** A Licence to Live (598629) **11.40** Special Report (299174) **12.10am** Obsessed (731526) **2.00** Top Ten (94435) **2.30** Girl in the Headlines (854033)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: **6.25-7.00** Wales Tonight (984087) **10.40-12.10pm** Nasty Hero (5025629)

MERIDIAN

As London except: **9.50am** C.O.P.S (1944532) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (4139700) **10.30** Disney's Ride a Wild Pony (57769990) **12.10pm-12.20** Warner Cartoon (1653822) **1.55** A Country Practice (35468261) **2.20** Crossroads - 30 Years On (92096006) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (8935367) **3.30** Disney's the Apple Dumpling Gang Rides Again (345396) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (4209268) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (613) **6.30-7.00** Time Off (193) **10.40** Nightmare at Bitter Creek (44447377) **12.20am-12.50** Coach (8334481)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: **9.50** C.O.P.S (1944532) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (4139700) **1.55** Cotton on Canvas (80807445) **2.25-2.55** The Sullivans (92095377) **3.30** Disney's the Apple Dumpling Gang Rides Again (345396) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (4209268) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (79261) **10.40** Westcountry Focus (898613) **11.10** Prisoner Cell Block H (752483) **12.10am** Obsessed (731526) **2.00** Top Ten (94435) **2.30** Girl in the Headlines (854033) **4.05** Jobfinder (49991694) **4.35-5.30** Cue the Music

YORKSHIRE

As London except: **9.50** C.O.P.S (1944532) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (4139700) **1.55** Country Practice (35468261) **2.20-3.20** Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman (1149984) **3.30** Disney's the Apple Dumpling Gang Rides Again (345396) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (4209268) **5.55** Calendar (917280) **6.30-7.00** Runway (193) **10.40** The Calendar Year (898613) **11.10** Prisoner Cell Block H (322254) **12.05am** Absolution (710033) **1.50** America's Top Ten (2190101) **2.20** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (1348782) **2.50** Sebastian (779743) **4.40-5.30** Jobfinder (9907120)

S4C

Starts: **7.00** The Big Breakfast (10613) **9.00** Pugwall (68613) **9.30** Space Cats (98396) **10.00** Pro-stars (5071464) **10.25** Batman (1735025) **10.50** Super Mario Brothers (9313464) **11.05** Tintin (9266193) **11.30** Kelly (7071) **12.00pm** If Wishes Were Horses (51377) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (96984) **1.00** What Has Become Of Us (97887) **2.00** The Admirable Crichton (196922) **3.40** Ricki Lake (1523700) **4.30** The Cosby Show (990) **5.00** 5 Pump (8919) **5.30** Fifteen To One (342) **6.00** Newyddion (872209) **6.20** Heno (907938) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (1483) **7.30** Mr O Gbri (65209) **8.30** News (6938) **9.00** Ana Straeon O' lano (4299223) **10.05** Into The West (512483) **12.00am** Night On Mount Edna (47410) **1.00** Desmond's (75385)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am The DJ Kat Show (31939532) **8.45** Cartoons (5625629) **9.30** Card Sharks (16716) **10.00** Concentration (1680754) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (7130735) **10.30** Candid Camera (86087) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (33532) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (23857) **12.30pm** E Street (10532) **1.00** Falcon Crest (15087) **2.00** The Pirate (16377) **3.00** The Dukes of Hazzard (3906280) **3.50** The DJ Kat Show (5298648) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (8174) **6.00** Gamesworld (4087) **6.30** Blockbusters (8667) **7.00** E Street (9803) **7.30** M*A*S*H (7551) **8.00** A Mind to Kill (74700) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (68735) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (991445) **11.45** Chances (825857) **12.45am** Barney Miller (18439) **1.15-1.45** Night Court (11192)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (7736071) **9.30** Extra (36356) **10.30** ABC Nightline (84629) **11.00** News and Business (736025) **1.30pm** CBS News (23396) **2.30** Memories of 1970-1989 (85071) **3.30** Beyond 2000 (6445) **4.00** News and Business (24261) **5.00** Live at Five (8716) **6.30** Talkback (45984) **8.00** News and Business (26803) **9.30** Worldwide Report (74087) **11.30** CBS News (59626) **12.30am** ABC News (24675) **1.30** Talkback Replay (86675) **2.30** Memories (41781) **3.30** Beyond 2000 (53526) **4.30** CBS News (21878) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (62694)

SKY MOVIES

6.05am Showcase (88911261) **10.00 Switching Parents** (1993) (21648) **12.00 The Last of Sheila** (1973) (13280) **2.00pm Where the River Runs Black** (1986) (57087) **4.00 Girls Just Wanna Have Fun** (1985) (14298280) **5.55 Switching Parents** (1993): As 10am (86397025) **7.30 E! News Week in Review** (9919) **8.00 Honeymoon in Vegas** (1992) (38684551) **9.40 The Temp** (1993) (535209) **11.20 The Inner Circle** (1991) (25850445) **1.40am The Indian Runner** (1991) (92270588) **3.45-5.15 Bruce v Bill** (33841438)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm How to Steal a Million (1966) (74296193) **8.05 Moonstruck** (1987) (44073700) **10.00-12.00 National Lampoon's European Vacation** (1985) (29357)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am My Darling Clementine (1946) (59803) **8.00 Spiderman: Con Caper/Curse of Rava** (1978) (25071) **10.00 Prancer** (1989) (12590) **12.00 Keep Your Seats Please** (1936) (11822) **2.00pm The Desk Set** (1957) (55629) **4.00 Spiderman: Con Caper/Curse of Rava:** As 8am (1848) **6.00 The Babe** (1992) (68193) **8.00 Chaplin** (1992) (84539735) **10.25 Double Impact** (1991) (414377) **12.15am Joy** (1984) (878656) **1.55 Dracula Rising** (1992) (3436149) **3.20-5.25 American Me** (1992) (97566678)

● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Soccer News (4110551) **7.15** WWF Challenge (468261) **8.15** Soccer News (7017261) **8.30** Extreme (46938) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (25551) **10.00** Sailing — Whitbread Round the World Race (12087) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (86174) **12.30pm** Rugby Union (18280) **2.00** Boots 'n' All Christmas Special (58377) **3.00** Golf (85342) **4.00** Watersports World (77377) **5.00** WWF Action Zone (2532) **6.00** Soccer News (387754) **6.15** Sports Classics (382209) **6.30** Rugby Union (2025) **7.00** Golf Cannon Shoot-Out (94613) **9.00** Golf (16754) **10.00** Soccer News (888209) **10.15** The A to Z of Sport (620209) **11.15** Rugby Union (845990) **11.45** Golf Cannon Shoot-Out (818822) **1.45-2.45am** Golf (503323)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Step Aerobics (84280) **8.00** Equestrianism (18445) **9.00** Live Alpine Skiing (91280) **10.30** Freestyle Skiing (57377) **11.30** Live Alpine Skiing (28416) **1.00pm** Karting (19990) **2.00** Motors Magazine (43445) **3.00** Eurofun (3648) **3.30** Snowboarding (4629) **4.00** Alpine Skiing (62445) **5.00** Triathlon (27193) **6.30** Eurosport News (7193) **7.00** Combat Sports (12938) **8.00** Wrestling (98358) **9.00** Football (91862) **10.00** Tractor Pulling (11209) **11.00** Golf (81193) **12.00-12.30am** News (29679)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (1727648) **8.30** Peyton Place (1726919) **9.00** As the World Turns (8991936) **10.00** Guiding Light (8993700) **11.00-12.00** Another World (8086464)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Discover Your World (1720735) **12.30pm** Kids Down Under (7389464) **1.00** Cruising the Globe (8080280) **1.30** Pierre Franey's Cooking in America (7388735) **2.00** American Adventurer (4902087) **2.30** Yellowstone National Park (3075209) **3.00** Discover Your World (4914822) **3.30** The Way of Life (3070754) **4.00** Cruising the Globe (3058261) **4.30** Kids Down Under (3055445) **5.00** Yellowstone National Park (4929557) **5.30** Cooking in America (3079025) **6.00** Getaway (3076938) **6.30** American Adventurer (3050990) **7.00** Discover Your World (4906803) **7.30** Around the World in 30 Minutes (3056174) **8.00** Sky Travel Guide (7320648) **9.00** Getaway (9363551) **9.30** Hong Kong (7296700) **10.00** Dive — Miami (1721464) **10.30** Cooking in America (1634984) **11.00** Getaway (9375396) **11.30-12.00** The Way of Life (4286006)



Cher stars in *Moonstruck* (Sky Movies Gold, 8.05pm)

TLC

9.00am Sugarcraft (3513613) **9.30** High Days (4579193) **10.00** Parents (8403990) **10.30** Only Human (7880629) **11.30** Right or Wrong (6182087) **12.00** Sick Kids (3605377) **12.30pm** Cash in Hand (4580209) **1.00** High Days (7417700) **1.30** Sugarcraft (4572280) **2.00** Draw with Don (53378193) **2.15** Extra Dimensions (4218006) **3.00** Flowering Passions (6876754) **3.30-4.00** Furniture to Go (4201025)

UK GOLD

7.00am The Sullivans (5718777) **7.30** Neighbours (6263862) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (3605648) **8.30** EastEnders (3604919) **9.00** The Bill (3515071) **9.30** Colditz (6174735) **10.30** The Lotus Eaters (46569280) **11.35** The Sullivans (11281551) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (3608735) **12.30pm** Neighbours (4582667) **1.00** EastEnders (6168218) **1.30** The Bill (4581938) **2.00** Robin's Nest (6866377) **2.30** I Didn't Know You Cared (4208938) **3.00** Knots Landing (6188261) **4.00** Dynasty (6107396) **5.00** Every Second Counts (8562193) **5.35** Top of the Pops (8877990) **5.55** Terry and June (6107984) **6.30** EastEnders (4290919) **7.00** The Two Ronnies (5920342) **8.00** I Didn't Know You Cared (6773613) **8.30** Robin's Nest (6865648) **9.00** Minder (5022754) **10.00** The Bill (3609484) **10.30** Top of the Pops (1789716) **11.20** Rory Bremner (4656629) **12.00** Dr Who (4644946) **12.30am** Scotch'n'Wry (8960985) **1.10** Squadron (1736255) **2.10** Shopping at Night

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Best of Dróibee Time (20613) **7.00** Ratkan III (5134822) **7.15** Head to Head in 3D (3135735) **7.25** Garfield and Friends (7200629) **7.55** Saved by the Bell (6782984) **8.30** Super Mario Brothers (26716) **9.00** Zoo (40396) **9.30** Cult Cartoons (76209) **10.00** Dreamstone (40445) **10.30** Round the Twist (39280) **11.00** Eek the Cat (28025) **11.30** Beakman's World (29754) **12.00** Stunt Dawgs (20532) **12.30pm** Bots Master (70025) **1.00** Pugwall's Summer (79445) **1.30** Degrassi Junior High (79396) **2.00** Ghostbusters (1445) **2.30** SuperDave (9716) **3.00** Tic Tac Toons (8887551) **3.15** Bobby's World (700218) **3.45** Head to Head in 3D (5668236) **4.00** The Bots Master (3396) **4.30-5.00** Saved by the Bell (2280)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nick's Christmas Cracker (85919) **7.30** Denver the Last Dinosaur (97754) **8.00** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (81629) **8.30** Rocko's Modern Life (19700) **9.00** Nick's Christmas Pick (97280) **9.30** Clarissa (23193) **10.00** Grimmy (48990) **10.30** Carmen Sandiego (93464) **11.00** Killer Tomatoes (84667) **11.30** Ren and Stimpy (85396) **12.00** Pee-Wee (84716) **12.30pm** Galaxy High School (34209) **1.00** Doug (77990) **1.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (26280) **2.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (7087) **2.30** Speed Racer (5358) **3.00** Carmen Sandiego (9822) **3.30** Hey Dude! (3713) **4.00** Nick's Christmas Pick (9938) **4.30** Doug (8822) **5.00** Clarissa (4254) **6.00** Grimmy (6087) **6.30-7.00** Dracula (3568)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Deep Probe (6105938) **5.00** Islands (4922367) **5.55** Man Eaters (5163193) **6.00** Beyond 2000 (4485700) **7.00** Encyclopedia Galactica (6868735) **7.30** Mysterious World (4287445) **8.00** Fork in the Road (6877483) **8.30** Skybound (6856990) **9.00** Special Forces (6194822) **9.30** Crime Stalker (4560445) **10.00** Christmas Star (5023483) **11.00** The Beer Hunter (6108867) **11.30-12.00** Life in the Wild (8409174)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: A Wild Affair (1965). Comedy with Nancy Kwan (8410280) **2.00pm** thirtysomething (8408445) **3.00** My Three Sons (6863280) **3.30** The Beverly Hillbillies (4298551) **4.00** FILM: The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai Across the Eighth Dimension (1984) (6874396) **6.00** Death Valley Days (4294735) **6.30** I Spy (4929700) **7.30** Car 54, Where Are You? (4101071) **8.00** thirtysomething (5004358) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (6198648) **9.30** FILM: The Gods Must Be Crazy II (1990) (9423822) **11.30-12.00** Hogan's Heroes (8323700)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (2940938) **7.00** Living Highlights (8548648) **8.00** The Treatment (2485087) **8.30** Women Mean Business (2484358) **9.00** Delia Smith (7945358) **9.35** Definition (6739822) **10.00** Trivia Trap (9480025) **10.30** Susan Powter (2497822) **11.00** Young and Restless (8549532) **12.00** Through the Looking Glass (1097754) **12.35pm** Kilroy (9390209) **1.30** Family Affairs (7488629) **2.00** Agony Hour (9481754) **3.00** Living Magazine (7868006) **3.45** Gladrags and Glamour (17522754) **4.00** Infatuation UK (5878735) **4.30** Definition (18885532) **4.55** Masterchef (4945754) **5.30** Kate and Allie (5785071) **6.00** Material World (5782984) **6.30** Mr and Mrs (5879464) **7.00** Living Magazine (9224648) **8.00** Young and Restless (923396) **9.00** FILM: Coma (60430532) **11.10** Gladrags **1.30-12.00** The Susan Powter Show (9486209)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Tintin (5025) **5.30** Boogie's Diner (3532) **6.00** African Skies (5795) **6.30** Through the Keyhole (4025) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (5261) **7.30** The Wonder Years (5839) **8.00** Snowy River (36532) **9.00** Moonlighting (56396) **10.00** Catchphrase (21261) **10.30** Tintin (47209) **11.00** Lou Grant (89822) **12.00** Rhoda (49781) **12.30pm** Big Brother Jake (96101) **1.00** GP (84255) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (61656) **2.00** Moonlighting (47217) **3.00** Lou Grant (63304) **4.00** Rhoda (90385) **4.30-5.00** Big Brother Jake (45120)

MTV

5.00am Awake on the Wildside (97410) **6.30** The Grind (51651) **7.00** Awake on the Wildside (69464) **8.00** VJ Ingo (870735) **11.00** Soul (77087) **12.00** Greatest Hits (51990) **1.00pm** Afternoon Mix (63396) **3.00** Sports (2938) **3.30** Coca-Cola Report (4313349) **3.45** Cinematic (3868254) **4.00** News (6960193) **4.15** 3 from 1 (6950716) **4.30** Dial MTV (1938) **5.00** Music (72613) **6.30** Rock AM Ring (144822) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (69919) **10.00** Coca-Cola Report (680754) **10.15** Cinematic (685209) **10.30** News (332613) **10.45** 3 from 1 (433396) **11.00** The End? (95613) **1.00am** Soul (81526) **2.00** The Grind (91491) **2.30** Night Videos (924410)

VH-1

7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (8089551) **9.00** Café (8478358) **12.00** The Bridge (3358342) **1.30pm** Ten of the Best: Snow (9871990) **2.30** Heart and Soul (9538358) **3.30** Into the Music (9043367) **6.00** Prime Cuts (7283613) **7.00** For You (7313358) **8.00** Rock (7322006) **9.00** Ten of the Best (7239342) **10.00** The Bridge (8891984) **11.30** Today's Top Five (4288464) **12.00** The Nightly (9249217) **2.00am** Prime Cuts (4539684) **3.00** Rock (7976743) **4.00** Ten of the Best: Jon Bon Jovi (9213526) **5.00-7.00** Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE

Country music from **6am** to **7pm** including **4.00** CMT Delivery Room **5.00** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00** Big Ticket

TV ASIA

6.00am Persian Dawn (20667) **7.00** Asian Morning (67342) **8.30** Buniyaad (40342) **9.00** Pakistani FILM: Kushboo (596629) **12.00** Ghar (53358) **1.00pm** Serial (93071) **1.30** Kashkool (56822) **2.00** Hindi FILM: Bekhudi (423025) **5.00** TVA and You (2551) **5.30-6.00** Buniyaad (7358) **7.00** GGG (1803) **7.30** Dhun Dhamaka (9551) **8.00** News (9321) **8.30** Pakistan Business Report (6358) **9.00** Hindi FILM: Vishwaatma (265754) **12.00** Asian Morning (779946) **1.35am** Sight and Sound (31341588)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.
Theme: Amazing Adventures
7.00pm The Secret Garden (1949) (46017551) **8.45 The Happy Years** (1950) (70654174)
Theme. Best of British
10.45 Kill or Cure (1962) (49919700) **12.25am The Magnificent Seven Deadly Sins** (1971) (65387255) **2.25-5.00 Postman's Knock** (1961) (35485694)

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Tufnell must do England a good turn



Tufnell: highly talented but temperamental



Alan Lee, cricket correspondent, reports from Melbourne on the maverick spin bowler for whom time is fast running out

IT WAS in this city, four Christmases ago, that a spin bowler of plodding gait, sulky demeanour and dubious reputation played his first Test match. The crowds, identifying an unathletic larrikin, taunted the new arrival, but England humoured his moods and tolerated his frailties, for they saw in him a rare potential to win matches.

A year later Australia introduced a similar type. Their spin bowler was overweight and under-disciplined, raw in manner and method. He, too, was considered a risk worth taking only because the intuitive judged he possessed something unusual and hoped that maturity would conquer rebellion.

Both bowlers will play in the Christmas Test this year, starting here on Saturday, but whereas the shadow of Shane Warne dominates the Ashes series, inhibiting all that England do and say, the most remarkable thing about Philip Tufnell is that he has survived this far. Warne is not only the best bowler in the world, he is among the most fêted of sportsmen, his image the epitome of outdoor Australia. Tufnell's fame is by notoriety and his career hangs by the twin threads of his volcanic temper and the fraying loyalty of those who must live with his darkest side, while coaxing and coercing from him the talent that still lurks within.

Comparisons with Warne are mostly fatuous, such is the scale of his achievement. But as he shared Tufnell's maverick background and the mockery that greeted his first, faltering steps at the highest level, this one is valid. In his three years of Test cricket Warne has taken 145 wickets in 30 games. Tufnell's 62 wickets come from 11 matches fewer and the fragmented shape of his career reveals the tremors and turbulence that have, more than once, brought it close to destruction.

It is difficult to imagine a cricketer experiencing a stormier year than this has been for Tufnell. He was charged and convicted over a domestic affray, and he played no cricket for half the summer. It is astonishing that he is here, as England's senior spin bowler.

When he began to appear shorn of his stubble, smiled more than usual and practised with unusual intensity, the optimists courted the hope that he might have reformed. Sadly, the rage remains within him and nothing he has done so far on this tour — a tour he must surely regard as a final chance — has convinced those in authority of his ability to finally live up to the soaring hopes once invested in him.

There have been unpleasant scenes on the field, one involving a fine for throwing down a ball but others concerning gratuitous remarks to batsmen and insubordination to his captain. Nor has his conduct and input off the field been deemed impressive. Absenteeism in the early days of the tour caused the management to consider his future on it and his relationship with those in charge has been precarious since. Michael Atherton, indeed, is now acquainted with all the difficulties with Tufnell that so exhausted Graham Gooch before him.

All of this is such a shameful waste, for there is plenty to admire in Tufnell's cricket. His fielding is unrecognisable from its clumsy and uncoordinated origins and his bowling remains, at its best, highly effective, if seldom inspirational. During the first Test in Brisbane he so frustrated Australia's best batsmen with his defensive line and fields that Mark Waugh foolishly gave away his wicket.

On Tuesday, in Toowoomba, he repeated the tactic and took five wickets in an hour. There is nothing to say he cannot influence the second Test with such methods and he will certainly have the chance to try. But equally, and alarmingly, there is no guarantee that Tufnell will hold his concentration, or his temper, long enough.

It is long past time for him to realise that cricket has treated him well and to ponder seriously what he would do without it. For a man who can be amusing and sensitive, Tufnell is capable of much that is charmless and insular. He is close to virtually nobody in this England party, many of whom regard him with either bemusement or exasperation. Everyone wants him to succeed, everyone acknowledges his ability, but the desire to cosset and indulge him is past.

Tufnell has to speak and act for himself now. The performances which sustain his career, those magical days in Kennington and Christchurch, are too long ago to be cited as evidence in his favour. England have no compelling candidate to replace him but someone surely will unless he grasps the opportunity that some would say he scarcely deserves.

The next two weeks, the next two crucial Tests, are Tufnell's stage as well as Warne's, for the expected over-prepared pitches, on which Warne will prosper, will assist Tufnell just as much. But if the comparison becomes too odious, if his input is indifferent and his image unaltered, then Tufnell's supply of loyalty may quickly and finally expire.

Gooch's warning, page 42

Parry calls for help in cleaning up football

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

RICK PARRY, the chief executive of the FA Premier League who is heading an investigation into alleged irregularities in transfers in the FA Carling Premiership, yesterday admitted he wanted help from Fifa, football's world governing body, and Uefa, its European ruler, to help clean up English football. He also said that football needs a permanent body to monitor corruption in the national game.

"I don't want to get into the business of unnecessary bureaucracy, but it seems clear to me that we now have to keep monitoring the game carefully to show that it is clean and honest," Parry said. "At the moment, we have a special Premier League commission looking into allegations that have emerged about the game in this country and that, of course, is my prime concern, but, inevitably, with so many transfers of players to and from foreign clubs, other country associations come into the picture.

"There are, of course, football agents to consider as well. At the moment, anybody can become an agent without needing qualifications or a licence, but, by the start of next season, I am hopeful we will have a format in place to regulate them in this country.

"We need Uefa's help — and probably Fifa's help as well — to draw up hard rules and regulations for transfer dealings between clubs of one country and another. The commission we have already instigated might well have to be an ongoing thing to keep a check on future deals. It would be unlikely to retain the same personnel, but it would seem appropriate to have a continuing monitoring device."

Parry, who is working with Steve Coppell, the former England player and Crystal Palace manager, and Robert Reid QC on a panel of investigation into alleged irregular transfer payments, denied that English football is "rife with corruption", even though he confirmed that more leading managers will be interviewed in the new year.

George Graham, the Arsenal manager, has already been questioned over allegations that he received a £285,000 payment as part of John Jensen's move to Highbury from Brondby, the Danish club, more than two years ago, but Parry stressed: "I do not believe the game is rife with corruption. There is no evidence to support that. There is precious little hard evidence at all.

"We will be talking to two or three FA Carling Premiership managers early in the new year, together with other club officials, but we are not prejudging. The over-riding impression I have from Premier League clubs is that they want to run things straight."

Parry's panel is investigating 23 transfers involving Scandinavian players to English clubs, but he pointed out: "Many of the transfers predate the formation of the Premier League.

"For the last 12 months, all our clubs have been preparing reports for the Inland Revenue. The notion that too much untoward has been happening while that process has been going on is a little remote. So far, we do not have too much evidence of transfers in the last six months being at risk."

☐ Malaysian police have arrested a bookmaker and two more football players in their continued crackdown on corruption in the country's fledgling professional league. The arrests bring to 26 the number of players being detained by Malaysian authorities and police have said they are planning more arrests.



Alberto Tomba, of Italy, produces breathtaking skiing to win the World Cup slalom in Lech, Austria, yesterday. It was his fourth win of the season. Report, page 40

Stewart states Birmingham's case

BY JOHN GOODBODY

BIRMINGHAM yesterday increased its challenge to be the home of a new national football stadium to replace Wembley. A delegation of Birmingham City Councillors met Graham Kelly, the chief executive of the Football Association, for 1½ hours to press their case that the city should be preferred to either Manchester or London.

The Premier League is committed to the project for a new national stadium and is willing to inject up to £60 million with the remaining cash coming from the Millenium Commission. However, the league has yet to decide which city should receive its support.

Birmingham would locate the venue, holding 70,000 people, on a 110-acre site, close to the National Exhibition Centre, as it had envisaged in its unsuccessful attempt to stage the 1992 Olympic Games.

Theresa Stewart, the leader of Birmingham council, said: "We have made a great deal of progress in preparing this location. Not only is the national stadium site in total ownership of the city council, but millions of pounds have been spent to make the NEC uniquely accessible for the whole nation."

A railway station and airport adjoin the NEC, which is also well served by the motorway network.

However, Manchester will have to build a stadium if it is awarded the 2002 Commonwealth Games. It has already beaten both London and Sheffield for England's nomination and its likelihood of holding the event has increased because there is a lack of committed opposition from any other Commonwealth country.

Manchester City Council already owns the Eastlands site, two miles from the city centre, and the area has been cleared in preparation for the building of an important stadium. A cycling velodrome has been erected alongside the proposed venue. Both formed part of Manchester's unsuccessful bid to stage the 2000 Olympic Games.

The Football Association is committed to staging England internationals, the FA Cup Final and the FA Charity Shield at Wembley until 2002. However, it is possible that Wembley will rebuild its stadium, after it has staged the 1996 European championship final. Wembley remains an attraction for foreign teams, but the present sightlines are unsatisfactory for many spectators.

SPECIAL ISSUE

RUGBY WORLD

SPECIAL REVIEW OF THE YEAR

In 1994, a player was tried for manslaughter after an opponent died, others were punched, bitten and kicked in the head

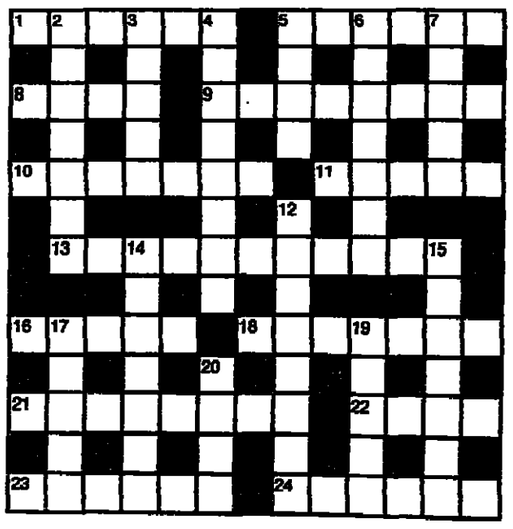
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REVIEW OF THE YEAR

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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 351

ACROSS
1 For the moment (3,3)
5 Failure, death (6)
8 Admonish (4)
9 Clergymen generally (3,5)
10 Formal letter (7)
11 Violent gale (5)
13 Be a big success (2,4,1,4)
16 Doctor who sold soul to devil (5)
18 Very stupid (7)
21 Convulsion; sudden attack (8)
22 Audio equipment (2,2)
23 Moderate, mild (6)
24 Agile (6)

DOWN
2 Lesson; Berks. town (7)
3 Sugar-grasping tool (5)
4 Give reason to act (8)
5 Consider, judge (4)
6 Citizen army (7)
7 Indian stringed instrument (5)
12 Odd-job person (8)
14 Fiasco: event ruined by rain (4-3)
15 Providing income (7)
17 Swiftly (5)
19 Ancient Irish alphabet (5)
20 Funeral fire (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 350

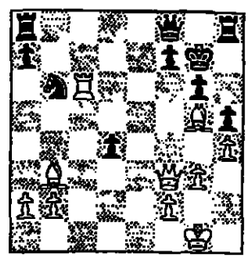
ACROSS: 5 At arm's length 8 Recoup 9 Strike 10 Hobo 12 Giraffe 14 Afflict 15 Heir 17 Loggia 18 Revere 20 Drawing-board

DOWN: 1 Take the floor 2 Faro 3 Classic 4 Increase 6 Mope 7 Take for a ride 11 Ball gown 13 Scrawny 16 Grab 19 Veal

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation from the game Alekhine - Opocensky, Paris 1925. All White's pieces are aimed menacingly at the black king, and he now has a chance to rip the defences away. Can you see how?



Solution, page 41
Raymond Keene, page 7

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

PESTA
a. A swarm of locusts
b. Green cheese lasagne
c. A festival gathering

POPPIT
a. A bead
b. A type of sweet
c. A miniature Pekingese

ROSINER
a. A stiff drink
b. A cellist
c. An espalier for roses

POPSICLE
a. An endearment
b. A child's reclining bike
c. An ice lolly

Answers on page 41

هكذا من الأصل